



**MISSISSIPPI STATE
UNIVERSITY™
EXTENSION SERVICE**

Madison County

Madison County Board of Supervisors
P O Box 608
Canton, MS 39046

April 24, 2014

Dear Partners in Education:

In 1914, U.S. Sen. Hoke Smith of Georgia and U.S. Rep. A. F. Lever of South Carolina authored the Smith-Lever Act to expand the “vocational, agricultural, and home demonstration programs in rural America” by bringing the research-based knowledge of the land-grant universities to people where they live and work.

The result: the Cooperative Extension Service. Today, the Mississippi State University Extension Service and Alcorn State University Extension Program offer Mississippians agricultural, economic, consumer, and youth development programs.

To help us celebrate the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the Extension Service, we invite you to consider the enclosed proclamation. While May 8, 2014, is the official anniversary of the signing of the Smith-Lever Act, we welcome your official support through such a proclamation any time between now and the end of 2014.

On May 7, 2014 our office will host open house to recognize Extension Day and hope you will join us. We appreciate your continued support of our services to the people of Madison County and look forward to many more years of collaboration.

Warm regards,

Ty Jones
Madison County Coordinator

Cooperative Extension Service • Mississippi State University
P.O. Box 112 • 152 Watford Parkway • Canton, MS 39046 • Phone (601) 859-3842 • Fax (601) 859-0333

Mississippi State University, United States Department of Agriculture, Counties Cooperating
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Extension Centennial Resolution

Celebrating the 100th anniversary of the signing of the Smith-Lever Act, the founding legislation of the nationwide Cooperative Extension System

Whereas, May 8, 2014, marks the centennial of the signing of the Smith-Lever Act (Act of May 8, 1914, Ch. 79, 38 Stat. 372, 7 U.S.C. 341 et seq.), which established Cooperative Extension, the nationwide transformational education system operating through land-grant universities in partnership with federal, state, and local governments,

Whereas, U.S. Sen. Hoke Smith of Georgia and U.S. Rep. A. F. Lever of South Carolina authored the Smith-Lever Act to expand the “vocational, agricultural, and home demonstration programs in rural America” by bringing the research-based knowledge of the land-grant universities to people where they live and work,

Whereas, Cooperative Extension is a critical component of the three-part land-grant university mission and works collaboratively with research programs, particularly the Agricultural Experiment Station System, and academic programs in 106 colleges and universities, including historically black, Native American, and Hispanic-serving institutions in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and six U.S. territories to reach traditional and underserved audiences in all communities,

Whereas, Cooperative Extension’s research-based education for farmers and ranchers helped establish the United States as a leading agriculture-producing nation in the world,

Whereas, since 1902, 4-H, Cooperative Extension’s nationwide youth development program, has reached millions of youth and helped prepare them for responsible adulthood,

Whereas, Cooperative Extension supports the development of healthy, productive lifestyles through sustained education, such as the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program, breaking the cycle of poverty and reducing expenditures for federal and state assistance programs,

Whereas, Cooperative Extension provides rapid response to disasters and emergencies through the Extension Disaster Education Network and other similar efforts by providing real-time alerts and resources so Extension educators can respond to urgent needs resulting from hurricanes, floods, oil spills, fire, drought, pest outbreaks, and infectious diseases affecting humans, livestock, and crops,

Whereas, Cooperative Extension translates science-based research into practical advice through local and online learning networks where Extension agents and educators are uniquely available to identify emerging research questions, connect with land-grant university faculty to find answers, and encourage application of findings to improve economic and social conditions, and

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Whereas, Cooperative Extension reaches rural and urban learners through practical, community-based and online approaches, resulting in the acquisition of knowledge, skills, and motivation to strengthen the profitability of animal and plant production systems, protect natural resources, support healthful lifestyle choices, ensure a safe and abundant food supply, encourage community vitality, and grow the next generation of leaders,

Therefore, be it resolved, that the Madison County Board of Supervisors:

Recognizes the significance of the Smith-Lever Act to the establishment of Cooperative Extension nationwide,

Encourages the people of Madison County to observe and celebrate the centennial with a focus on launching an innovative and sustainable future for Cooperative Extension,

Honors the university faculty and local educators who dedicate their careers to providing trusted education to help people, families, youth, businesses, and communities solve problems, develop skills, and build a better future,

Thanks to the Cooperative Extension volunteers who provide thousands of hours to promote excellence for 4-H, Master Gardeners, family and consumer sciences, and other programs in their communities,

Encourages continued collaboration and cooperation among federal, state, and local governments to ensure Cooperative Extension's sustainability as the nation's premiere informal educational network, and

Celebrates the millions of youth, adults, families, farmers, ranchers, community leaders, and others who engage in Cooperative Extension learning opportunities designed to extend knowledge and change lives.

Therefore, the Madison County Board of Supervisors does declare May 7, 2014, a day of celebration of the Cooperative Extension Service 100th birthday in Madison County.

Ordered this 24th day of April, 2014.

Karl Banks, President
Madison County Board of Supervisors

Attest: Cynthia Parker, Chancery Clerk