

BLUE LETTER

The University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service Monthly Letter

No. 3745 • May 2014

FROM THE DIRECTOR

On May 8, 1914, President Woodrow Wilson put his signature to a Congressional act that would create, in his words, “one of the most significant and far-reaching measures for the education of adults ever adopted by the government.”

The law, known as the Smith-Lever Act, created a national agricultural extension service – an action that would help transform farming in America and rural Arkansas.

In a century, we’ve learned a lot about life in Arkansas. We’ve helped introduce mechanization and aided in making statewide childhood immunizations reality, and back in the 1930s, we even helped persuade our neighbors that electricity was a good thing. 4-H, the only youth program affiliated with the University of Arkansas, grew out of our mission to pass on innovations to farm families by teaching youth new ways of production, as well as growing into successful adults.

In 2014, while some of our methods have changed, our core mission remains the same – to continue helping our neighbors improve how they live for this generation and the ones to come.

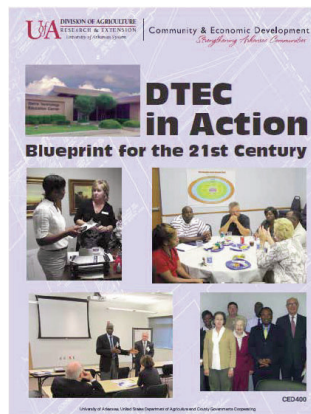
I would also like to recognize and thank the many people who have contributed to tornado relief efforts over the last two weeks. The helping hands, the donations of food, water and other essential items, show the best of what Extension people can do.

– Tony Windham

Blueprint, economic study released for Delta Technology Education Center

“This is great. You have given us the information and tools we need for DTEC to take DTEC to the next level in seeking to promote education, workforce preparation, and economic development for the area,” said Dr. David Rainey, chairman of the Delta Technology Education Center board in Dumas. Rainey was referring to the DTEC in Action Blueprint for the 21st Century and a recent economic study of the DTEC service area, both funded by the Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation and the Arkansas Science and Technology Authority.

The Blueprint for the 21st Century is a strategic plan developed by the DTEC in Action Steering Committee, a broad-based group of community leaders in the DTEC service area, with assistance from Mark Peterson, professor - Community and Economic Development, and the Breakthrough Solutions program of the Cooperative Extension Service. The blueprint is available at <http://www.uaex.edu/publications/pdf/ced400.pdf>.



U of A
DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE
RESEARCH & EXTENSION
University of Arkansas System
University of Arkansas,
United States Department of
Agriculture, and County
Governments Cooperating

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DR. TONY WINDHAM
Associate Vice President for
Agriculture - Extension and
Director, Cooperative Extension Service

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LeadAR program seeks candidates for Class 17

LeadAR, the Arkansas agricultural and rural leadership development program, is recruiting candidates for Class 17. LeadAR is a two-year study structure offering participants an in-depth and global view of issues facing their communities, state and country. It includes 11 three-day, issue-based seminars in the state, a weeklong trip to Washington, D.C., to learn the national legislative process and how it can help locally and a trip overseas to learn about another culture and how it relates to Arkansas and the U.S.

International study tours have been conducted in China, Turkey, Greece, Bolivia, Canada, Australia, Vietnam, Scotland, Panama and Costa Rica, and Brazil.

“LeadAR gives emerging adult leaders from rural Arkansas communities an increased understanding of economic and social changes affecting Arkansas, improves their leadership skills and expands their network of people resources to improve their communities,” said Dr. Joe Waldrum, director of the LeadAR program.

The tuition for the program is \$3,000. The first phase of the application process, the application form, is due online by late summer. To start the application process or learn more about the LeadAR Program, visit www.uaex.edu/leadar. For questions email LeadArkansas@uaex.edu or call the LeadAR office at (501) 671-2076. ■



4-H Quad Day features archeology dig

Sixty-five 4-H youth from Ashley, Chicot, Desha and Drew counties traveled back in time to life in the antebellum Delta at the annual Quad Day event held at the Taylor House/Hollywood Plantation in Winchester, Arkansas.

The Taylor House is currently the site of an archeological excavation being conducted by the Arkansas Archeological Survey, where scientists are examining structures associated with the Taylor House, which was built in 1847. As part of the program, archeologists allowed 4-H youth to learn about the lifestyles of the people that historically lived there.

Youth learned about antebellum life through food and games. Afterward, the youth learned about the prehistoric peoples of the Arkansas Delta through hands-on demonstrations of prehistoric tools and weapons. After lunch, the kids put on gloves and screened for artifacts, learning how archeology happens in the real world.

As the youth were leaving the site, one six year old was overheard telling his mother that he wanted to be an “Air Force race car driver-archeologist.” Overall, the 4-H youth had a tremendous time learning in a fun, hands-on experience. ■



Youth gather with Arkansas Archeological Survey and Society volunteers to learn about how field work happens.

BENEFITS CORNER

Maximize your Delta Dental coverage!

The dental plan is a preventive plan, designed to assist you in maintaining good oral health. Twice-a-year checkups and cleanings are covered in full. The plan has a \$50 deductible for other services covered at either 80 percent (restorative care) or 50 percent (major care). The maximum annual benefit per person is \$1,500.

If your maximum annual benefit is not reached in the plan year, you may be eligible to have some of your unused maximum **carryover** available to you in the future by meeting the following requirements: (1) Get at least one dental service during the year, e.g., a checkup and cleaning and (2) Use less than half of your \$1,500 benefit, meaning Delta pays less than \$750 in benefits during the year.

Each year you meet these two requirements, \$375 is added to your “carryover total”. The maximum carryover is \$1,500. Meet these two criteria for four years without using any of the carryover balance and you will have \$3,000 available for dental services that year: \$1,500 annual maximum + \$1,500 carryover.

Check your balance – Log in as a subscriber at www.DeltaDental.com ■

Lonoke students experience Arkansas Farm to You

Students at Lonoke Primary School, kindergarten through second grade, recently completed the Serving Up MyPlate curriculum and Arkansas Farm to You program. In a Train the Trainer session, Lonoke County FCS Agent Dianna Bowen instructed teachers in the implementation of the curriculum in their classes.

Teachers were provided with student workbooks, handouts and lesson materials to teach nutrition and physical fitness education to their students. At the completion of the curriculum, the Arkansas Farm to You traveling interactive exhibit was brought to the school for a day.

The program was a great success. Approximately 425 students and 40 adults rotated through nine stations learning how food gets from the farm to our plates and how nutrients from food keep our bodies healthy. Lonoke County 4-H Teen Leaders taught lessons, and EHC volunteers directed the students and reviewed nutrition information as students waited their turn to go through the exhibit. Many parent volunteers were recruited by the school to supervise students as they rotated through the exhibit and assisted with the set up and take down. ■



Mallory Perkins, 4-H Teen Leader, teaches students how food gets from the farm to the market.

DTEC Blueprint *(continued from page 1)*

The economic study, conducted by Terre McLendon with the UALR Institute for Economic Advancement, examined the economy of the five counties in southeast Arkansas and compared it with economic sectors in our nation that are growing and those losing jobs. “These documents enable DTEC to become more proactive in economic development and workforce preparation,” said Peterson. ■

Meet the *new* employees!

Janet Cantrell

County Extension Agent - Family and Consumer Sciences
Sevier County

• **What’s your background?**

I have a B.S. in family and consumer science and an M.S. in curriculum and instruction from Henderson State University.

• **What knowledge, skills and experience are you bringing to Extension?**

I come with 14 years of experience working with children and their parents or guardians in the public school. I have taught third grade and second grade and faced many challenges and joys.

• **What are one or two things you would like your colleagues to know about you?**

I grew up in Nashville, Arkansas, where I was a member of the Howard County 4-H program.

• **What would you like to accomplish your first year with Extension?**

During my first year, I would love to be able to meet as many people in Sevier County as possible. I want to get to know the leaders and members of all the clubs. I hope to continue the programs they have been accustomed to and maybe start as least one new EH club.

• **What brought you to Extension? What was it about Extension that you value?**

Extension work has always intrigued me. The research-based programs along with the great people make for an

exciting place to work. I am excited to be a part of an organization that encourages, teaches and enables people to improve their lives as well as the lives of their families.

- **What are your interests or hobbies outside of work?**

I love photography, family history, cooking, sewing and being with my family.



Shara Hardin
Administrative Specialist
Clay County - Corning

- **What's your background?**

I have worked in insurance since 2001.

- **What knowledge, skills and experience are you bringing to Extension?**

I have grown up in northeast Arkansas and been around farming and logging all of my life.

- **What are one or two things you would like your colleagues to know about you?**

I am married with two children: a girl, age 14, and a boy, age 8. Family is everything to me.

- **What would you like to accomplish your first year with Extension?**

I would like to be able to raise awareness as to how our services can benefit our community. Before I came onboard, I had no idea.

- **What brought you to Extension? What was it about Extension that you value?**

A friend referred me to the position, and I like that we can offer guidance in many areas concerning the family and home.

- **What are your interests or hobbies outside of work?**

I love to fish, hunt, ride ATVs and go camping. We are an outdoor family that loves spending time together. ■



Zachary Hill
County Extension Agent -
Agriculture
Jefferson County

- **What's your background?**

I grew up on my family farm in Desha County. I graduated from the University of Arkansas at

Monticello with a B.S. in agriculture with an emphasis in animal science. I am currently in the process of completing my M.S. in agronomy with an emphasis in weed science at the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville.

- **What knowledge, skills and experience are you bringing to Extension?**

My ability to communicate with farmers due to personal experiences in a farming family. To assist producers with any problems that they may have through knowledge gained from school and personal experiences.

- **What are one or two things you would like your colleagues to know about you?**

I enjoy my work, but I enjoy spending time with my wife and son.

- **What would you like to accomplish your first year with Extension?**

After my first year at Extension, I would like to have a good relationship with people and organizations in the county, while developing a solid ongoing program.

- **What brought you to Extension? What was it about Extension that you value?**

I wanted to be able to provide good, knowledgeable information to homeowners and farmers in Jefferson County.

- **What are your interests or hobbies outside of work?**

Enjoying time with my wife and son, hunting and fishing. ■

What's new in publications? Find out at:

<http://www.uaex.edu/publications/new.aspx>

Grants and contracts

for Month Ending April 30, 2014

Project Title	Award Amount	Principal Investigator	Granting Agency
Conway County 4-H Clothing and Textiles Project: Grow It! Sew It! Show It! Workshops	\$ 2,500	Alicia Hugen	West Central Arkansas Planning & Development District, Inc.
Corn and Grain Sorghum Production Economics for Optimal Farm Management	11,000	Archie Flanders	Corn & Grain Promotion Board
Flag the Technology	23,000	Bob Scott	Soybean Promotion Board
Edamame Production Recommendations	2,500	Bob Scott	Soybean Promotion Board
Team Approach to Weed Management in Soybean	66,586	Bob Scott	Soybean Promotion Board
Smartphone Apps for Information Dissemination to Corn Producers	32,000	Dharmendra Saraswat	Corn & Grain Promotion Board
Flag the Technology GPS/GIS Support	78,000	Dharmendra Saraswat	Soybean Promotion Board
Improving Yield and Yield Stability for Irrigated Soybeans	7,776	Dharmendra Saraswat	Soybean Promotion Board
Technological Aids for Information Dissemination to Soybean Producers	13,000	Dharmendra Saraswat	Soybean Promotion Board
Determining the Value of High Rates of Seed Treatment Insecticide in Corn and Grain Sorghum for Controlling Above Ground Seedling Pests	19,000	Glenn Studebaker	Corn & Grain Promotion Board
Insect Management in Mid-South Cotton: AR II	10,000	Glenn Studebaker	Cotton Incorporated
Insect Control in Grain Sorghum	8,000	Gus Lorenz	Corn & Grain Promotion Board
Evaluation of the Effects of Insecticide-Herbicide Interactions on Yield and Maturity of Arkansas Cotton	38,691	Gus Lorenz	Cotton Incorporated
2014 Lygus Open Field Efficacy Trial	60,000	Gus Lorenz	Monsanto Company
Eco-System	40,072	Gus Lorenz	Rice Research Promotion Board
Educating Growers and Consultants on Insect Monitoring and Control	5,000	Gus Lorenz	Soybean Promotion Board
Bee Project: Assessing the Impact of Neonicotinoid Seed Treatments on Pollinators	25,000	Gus Lorenz	Soybean Promotion Board
Fire Ant Control in Soybean	6,358	Gus Lorenz	Soybean Promotion Board
Edamame Production Recommendations	17,000	Gus Lorenz	Soybean Promotion Board
Evaluation of High Input Practices to Increase Corn and Grain Sorghum	30,000	Jason Kelley	Corn & Grain Promotion Board
Corn Verification	100,000	Jason Kelley	Corn & Grain Promotion Board
Exploring Potential of Corn, Wheat, Soybean Rotation in Arkansas	9,000	Jason Kelley	Soybean Promotion Board
Developing Profitable Irrigated Rotational Cropping Systems	20,000	Jason Kelley	Corn & Grain Promotion Board
Edamame Production Recommendations	23,000	Jeremy Ross	Soybean Promotion Board
Development of an Online Course – Intro to Biotech Crops	9,000	Julie Robinson	Corn & Grain Promotion Board
Dallas County Farmers' Market Kids 4 Health	1,000	Kathy May	Arkansas Blue & You Foundation
Irrigation Education Program	24,000	Lalit Verma	Corn & Grain Promotion Board
NEFE High School Financial Planning Program	1,750	Laura Connerly	National Endowment for Financial Education
Soil Fertility Requirements for Corn	34,000	Leo Espinoza	Corn & Grain Promotion Board
Improving Yield and Yield Stability for Irrigated Soybeans	32,815	Leo Espinoza	Soybean Promotion Board
Arkansas Discovery Farm Program	5,000	Michael Daniels	Corn & Grain Promotion Board
An Arkansas Discovery Farm for Cotton	17,500	Michael Daniels	Cotton Incorporated
Arkansas Discovery Farm Program: Addressing Sustainable Water Issues Associated With Crop Production	17,000	Michael Daniels	Soybean Promotion Board
Addressing Sustainability of Mid-South Soybean Production With Regard to Water Use Efficiency Utilizing the Arkansas Discovery Farms Program	40,000	Michael Daniels	Soybean Promotion Board
Carroll County Master Gardeners Community Educational Garden	1,500	Randy Forst	Arkansas Flower and Garden Show, Inc.
Arkansas 4-H Shooting Sports – Range Events	27,500	Rex Roberg	NRA Foundation
Arkansas 4-H Youth Hunter Education Challenge (YHEC)	27,500	Rex Roberg	NRA Foundation

(Continued, page 6)

Project Title	Award Amount	Principal Investigator	Granting Agency
Arkansas 4-H Junior Olympic Shooting Program	3,600	Rex Roberg	NRA Foundation
2015 SNAP-ED Food and Nutrition Program	1,700,000	Sarah David	Arkansas Department of Human Services
Evaluation of White Grain Sorghum Hybrids in Arkansas	6,000	Scott Monfort	Corn & Grain Promotion Board
Evaluation of the Effects of Ctczyme on Amino Acid Digestibility, Metabolizable Energy and Intestinal Viscosity in Broilers	20,136	Susan Watkins	CTCBIO
Demonstration of DuPont™ Anthium Dioxide® 5% Stabilized Chlorine Dioxide and Bleach for Commercial Broiler Production	9,647	Susan Watkins	DuPont de Nemours
Assessment of Early-Season Fungicide Application on Suppression of NCLB and Importance of Lesion Nematode in Corn	9,276	Terry Spurlock	Corn & Grain Promotion Board
Comparison of Spatial Dynamics of RKN and Other Diseases in Fields Undergoing Two Different Management Strategies	18,500	Terry Spurlock	Corn & Grain Promotion Board
Understanding Neocosmospora, Thielaviopsis and Fusarium Virguliforme in Early Season Production Systems	38,196	Terry Spurlock	Soybean Promotion Board
Foliar Disease Management in Full and Double Crop Soybean Production Systems in Arkansas	36,000	Terry Spurlock	Soybean Promotion Board
Weed Control Programs in Arkansas Corn	11,830	Tom Barber	Corn & Grain Promotion Board
Application Technology and Demonstration Program	20,000	Tom Barber	Corn & Grain Promotion Board
Development of Effective Weed Control Programs in Corn	36,634	Tom Barber	Corn & Grain Promotion Board
Application Technology Demonstration and Education Program for Arkansas Crops	78,000	Tom Barber	Soybean Promotion Board
Team Approach to Weed Management in Soybean	56,371	Tom Barber	Soybean Promotion Board
Assessment of the Occurrence and Distribution of Mycotoxins in Sorghum in Arkansas	2,000	Travis Faske	Corn & Grain Promotion Board
Management of Southern Rust With Emphasis on Threshold-Based Crop Protection	24,854	Travis Faske	Corn & Grain Promotion Board
Assessment of Early-Season Fungicide Application on Suppression of NCLB and Importance of Lesion Nematode in Corn	14,848	Travis Faske	Corn & Grain Promotion Board
Integrated Management of Nematodes	18,437	Travis Faske	Soybean Promotion Board
Development of an Effective Program to Manage Strobilurin-Resistant Frogeye Leaf Spot in Arkansas	44,988	Travis Faske	Soybean Promotion Board
Using Spatial Distribution and Colonization of <i>Rhizoctonia solani</i> AG1-IA for the Precision Management of Aerial Blight of Soybean	8,422	Travis Faske	Soybean Promotion Board
Understanding Neocosmospora, Thielaviopsis and Fusarium Virguliforme in Early Season Production Systems	20,804	Travis Faske	Soybean Promotion Board
Impact of Growth of Mississippi County Steel Industry on Manila School District Enrollment	5,000	Wayne Miller	Manila School District
Managing Crop Residues to Reduce Particulate Matter Emissions	888,012	Yi Liang	Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality
TOTAL NEW AWARDS	\$3,957,603		

Personnel changes

Please welcome the following:

Janet L. Cantrell

County Extension Agent - Family and Consumer Sciences, Sevier County, effective April 16, 2014.

Louis R. Hamilton

Program Associate - Soybean, Crop, Soil and Environmental Sciences, effective April 1, 2014.

Shara R. Hardin

Administrative Specialist, Clay County - Corning, effective April 14, 2014.

Zachary T. Hill

County Extension Agent - Agriculture, Jefferson County, effective April 1, 2014.

Scarlett D. Vasquez

Administrative Support Supervisor, Plant Pathology, effective April 1, 2014.

Extension says goodbye to:

Ione Daniel

Administrative Specialist, Johnson County, effective April 30, 2014.

Sandra R. Guzman

Program Assistant - Family, Benton County, effective March 28, 2014.

Margaret E. Hoskyn

Administrative Support Supervisor, Program and Staff Development, effective March 7, 2014.

Alan D. Northcutt

Program Associate - Cotton, Crop, Soil and Environmental Sciences, effective March 26, 2014.