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## BLUE LETTER

August 2021  
No. 3832



FROM THE DIRECTOR

# Resolve is Strong Despite Uncertain Times

I got to experience my first Arkansas 4-H Awards of Excellence last month at the C.A. Vines Arkansas 4-H Center. Even though it was a hybrid meeting and attendance was limited, I was moved by the event. The dedication that these young folks put into our programs was inspiring, and I must admit I was a bit sad to see the state officers give an emotional good-bye as they leave office and make way for the 2021-22 group. It was very rewarding to be a part of the ceremony and hand out awards. My compliments to all the 4-H folks involved in this event. I cannot imagine what it will be like when we have these kinds of events with full attendance again.

While at the 4-H Center, I also witnessed the dedication of two room renovations made possible by generous donations from the families of loved ones who support Arkansas 4-H. Much like our retirees who contribute to the employee scholarship fund, it is reassuring and humbling to know that so many think so much of what we do.

We are once again facing some uncertain times in terms of the pandemic. Although vaccination rates are slowly climbing as I write this article, case numbers have risen almost to pre-vaccine levels experienced back in January.

This is very disappointing. Due to the increase in COVID cases, we have had to put an emphasis once again on safety protocol such as social distancing, limiting in-person meetings, and providing masks, gloves, and hand sanitizer at our events. Many of my meetings were moved to Zoom, and our own *On the Job with Bob* has gone back to Zoom for the time being. We are not business as usual, but we are still in business! Many of our meetings will be held in person when deemed necessary by the meeting organizer. I am just requesting that precautions be taken wherever possible.

As I have done in most everything I have written or communicated, I am asking you to please offer our website links and information on vaccinations in all your Extension communications. The data supports that this virus is mainly being spread by the unvaccinated and that unvaccinated folks are far more likely to become seriously ill. It is especially alarming that the new variant seems to affect younger people more than the original outbreak. Schools are open now, and I ask you to do your part to keep folks informed of the facts about this virus where you can. Stay productive and safe. ■

## INSIDE SCOOP

2. Walk Across Arkansas is Back and Better than ever
3. Youth Participate in Series of Summer Day Camps
4. LeadAR Fellowship, Food & Fun
5. Arkansas Cattlemen's Association
6. Soybean Science Challenge
7. Tech Corner
8. Beef Industry uses Precision Agriculture and much more!

**U of A**  
DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE  
RESEARCH & EXTENSION  
*University of Arkansas System*



# Walk Across Arkansas is Back and Better Than Ever!

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2

Walk Across Arkansas is back for the fall event Sept. 13 – Nov. 7. The eight-week exercise program is organized by the University of Arkansas, Division of Agriculture, with the goal of helping Arkansans improve their health. Participation is free, and registration opens Aug. 30 online at <https://walk.uada.edu>.

Physical activity can lower the risk of early death, coronary heart disease, stroke, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, type 2 diabetes, metabolic syndrome and some cancers, according to the Centers for Disease Control. Exercise also helps with weight control and can improve mood and energy levels. Adults should get at least 150 minutes of exercise per week, and youth need at least 60 minutes of exercise daily.



Participants Cindy Harding and Catherine Massanelli picking up trash.

Last spring, 798 Arkansans statewide participated in the Spring 2021 Walk Across Arkansas session, logging 1,347,389 minutes. A total of 201 teams participated across the state. To participate this fall, find a few friends

to form a team and register online. This session, team scores are determined by the team's total number of physical activity minutes

divided by the number of team members. Don't forget to record your minutes online and share your successes on social media with #WalkAcrossAR.

Benton and Washington County added a new twist to their walks. Family and Consumer Sciences and water quality county agents developed the *Spring 2021 Do Your Part and Walk Across NWA*. Participants picked up trash while walking/jogging/hiking, known as "plogging." The NWA group reported 122,478 minutes of activity and 534 bags of litter collected during the five-week program. There were 92 individuals that reported, consisting of 16 team and 30 individuals.

## Of those who completed the survey:

94.7% felt motivated and are improving their health due to the program; 68% have implemented new practices to improve mental health; and 100% of people who picked up trash plan to continue. ■



# Extension Offers Tax Schools In-Person, Online

Know a professional tax preparer, farmer, small business owner, or anyone else interested in income tax preparation? You can refer them to one of our two-day Income Tax Schools. Each class runs from 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. and meets the guidelines for 16 hours of continuing professional education.

Registration is \$250 before Aug. 30. We are an approved IRS Continuing Education Provider.

Both online and in-person options are available.

**In-person** – Nov. 8-9 or Nov. 10-11 at the State Office.

**Online live webinar options** - Nov. 15-16 or Nov. 18-19

Registration information is available at [www.uaex.uada.edu/taxschool](http://www.uaex.uada.edu/taxschool).

For more information, contact Nikki Dawson at [ndawson@uada.edu](mailto:ndawson@uada.edu) or Kim Magee at [kmagee@uada.edu](mailto:kmagee@uada.edu). ■

# CREATE BRIDGES

## Workforce Development Certification

CREATE BRIDGES now offers a workforce development certification focused on skills and information for people working in retail, entertainment, accommodations, and/or tourism sectors.

The certification is named CREATE LIFT (Celebrating REtail, Accommodations, Tourism and Entertainment by Leading Innovation through WorkForce Training).

These skills were identified as part of the CREATE BRIDGES economic development program in Fulton, Howard, Izard, Little River, Sharp, and Sevier counties, started in 2018. Business owners, managers and employees were interviewed and surveyed about current skills and desired skills for these four industries.

The certificate is comprised of five modules: Essential Skills, Customer Service, Hospitality, Marketing and Technology, and Tourism. Each module consists of educational videos created by faculty from University of Arkansas Cossatot College and Ozarka College and community subject matter experts.

The CREATE LIFT certification takes less than 10 hours to complete. Once completed, participants will receive a certificate. It is currently available in English and will be available in Spanish, beginning in October.

Dr. Stacey McCullough and Julianne Dunn are the Arkansas state leads, and Brandon Mathews (Ozark Foothills), Hazelle Whited (Ozark Foothills), and Murriel Wiley (3C's) are regional program coordinators. To learn more, visit <https://uaex.uada.edu/create-lift>. ■

## Youth Participate in Series of Summer Day Camps



More than 100 Polk County youth participated in a series of summer day camps.

In "Digging Into Dirt," youth learned about composting, soil layers and growing plants. More than 40 youth enrolled in painting classes, while others learned basic cooking skills and made their own pizzas.

In "Outdoor Safety and Navigation Skills," youth learned about

compass and pacing, stroke signs, fire safety, Dutch

oven cooking and basic first aid. They also assembled their own first aid kits, and hiked with local Arkansas game and fish officer Ray Hines.

The last day camp was STEM-focused, and youth learned about fingerprints, computer coding and algorithms, and drones. ■



4-Her Avery S. learning about composting and vermiculture during the Digging Into Dirt Day Camp.



# Public Policy Center Provides Redistricting Resources

BL  
4

Although the U.S. Census Bureau released raw population data for states on Aug. 12, it will be mid to late September before any of the information is in a user-friendly format for the public to use.

The data is more than a curiosity. Population numbers are used in the redistricting process to draw political boundaries for state lawmakers, Quorum Court members, city council members and even school district boards.



Do you need to refresh your memory on the redistricting process? The Public Policy Center created a website on the basics at [uaex.uada.edu/redistricting](http://uaex.uada.edu/redistricting). There you will find a fact sheet about redistricting, links to committees responsible for redrawing General Assembly and congressional boundaries, as well as links to online programs where anyone can try their hand at creating their own district maps.

Reach out to Kristin Higgins at the Public Policy Center if you have questions about redistricting. ■

## LeadAR Fellowship, Food and Fun in Hot Springs

Members of LeadAR Class 19 met in Hot Springs in July to learn about issues of infrastructure and public health.

Hot Springs city officials shared information about the city, and participants toured David Watkins Park, Wastewater Treatment Plant, Solar Farm, Veterans Memorial, Farmers Market, and sculpture garden in the Greenway Trail. The group also participated in a poverty simulation conducted by the University of Central Arkansas Community Development Institute.

On the second day, LeadAR Director Julie Robinson and Emily Smith, program associate in economic development, discussed community project planning and heard from Hot Spring County staff chair Rachel Bearden.

The group toured the Arkansas School for

Mathematics, Sciences, and Arts and the new Oaklawn facilities and horse stables.

For more information, visit the LeadAR website. ■



Members of LeadAR Class 19 meet in Hot Springs in July, discussed community project planning, visited the Arkansas School for Mathematics, Sciences, and Arts and more.



# iLEAD is Up

Fifteen UADA employees are part of the new Internal Leadership Education and Development (iLEAD) program for employees of the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture. The first virtual session was held on July 16. The agenda included:

- **Welcomes** from Julie Robinson, associate professor and iLEAD director, and Stacey McCullough, director, community, professional and economic development,
- **History of Land Grant University System and Division of Agriculture** presented by Mary Hightower, UADA chief communications officer,
- **Agricultural Experiment Station (AES)** by

Nick Kordsmeier, AES interim assistant director of communications,

- **Cooperative Extension Service (CES)** by Tracy Courage, CES director of communications, and
  - **iLEAD Program Overview** by Robinson.
- The group gathered again Aug. 19-20 for team building at the 4-H Center. For more information about iLEAD contact Robinson, [jrobinson@uada.edu](mailto:jrobinson@uada.edu) or Lisa Davis, [ldavis@uada.edu](mailto:ldavis@uada.edu). ■



iLead first virtual session was held on July 16.

## ANIMAL SCIENCE FACULTY ATTEND

# Arkansas Cattlemen's Association

Three Animal Science faculty presented at the Cattlemen's College during the annual Arkansas Cattlemen's Association convention held July 30-31 in Hot Springs while two faculty members were honored.

Drs. Janeal Yancey and Kelly Vierck received the 2020 and 2021 Arkansas Cattlemen's Association Producer Education Awards for hosting the Young Cattlemen's Leadership Class at the UA System Division of Agriculture Red Meat Abattoir. The department will host the session for the fourth time in October.

### Faculty presenters were:

- **Dr. Daniel Rivera**, associate professor of animal science and director of the Southwest Research and Extension Center near Hope, discussed his vision of the SWREC. His planned research focuses on the interactions of production, management and nutrition in growing beef cattle.



From left to right: Drs. Janeal Yancey and Kelly Vierck receive Producer Education Awards.

- **Dr. Kelly Vierck**, assistant professor of meat science and muscle biology, discussed her findings on utilization of sous vide cooking to improve palatability and bone-in and boneless short-loins following aging projects.
- **Dr. Eva Wray**, parasitologist, discussed fecal egg counts and treatments for cattle parasites.

Vierck is also working with the U of A meat science group in the sensory kitchen in the Agricultural, Food, and Life Sciences Building to evaluate steaks for tenderness using Warner-Bratzler shear force. The group is evaluating the impact of aging beef short loins over an extended aging

period. Warner-Bratzler shear force is used as an instrumental determination of how tender meat is. The research could shape the postmortem handling and marketing of high-quality beef products for retail sale or white tablecloth establishments. The research is funded by the Arkansas Beef Council. ■



# Participates at FFA State Agriscience Training

Diedre Young, Soybean Science Challenge coordinator, conducted a workshop July 14 on the Soybean Science Challenge at the FFA State Agriscience in-service training day in Hot Springs. Young discussed the background of the Soybean Science Challenge, and explained how teachers can use lessons and videos in their agriculture science classroom, and how to start science fairs in their schools.

The Soybean Science Challenge is a farmer-funded, statewide, high school education program that seeks to increase student knowledge about the value of Arkansas soybeans to the Arkansas economy, to the labor force, and ultimately to feed and fuel the world. The Soybean Science Challenge is a partnership between the Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board and the Cooperative Extension Service.

For more information, contact Dr. Julie Robinson at [jrobinson@uada.edu](mailto:jrobinson@uada.edu) or Diedre Young at [dyoung@uada.edu](mailto:dyoung@uada.edu). ■

## Free Online Course

The Student Soybean Science Challenge online course brings real-world agricultural research into the classroom and educates students about soybeans – Arkansas' number one commodity.

The online course is open to middle and high school students (grades 6-12). Students who successfully complete the course and enter a science project in one of the ISEF affiliated fairs are eligible for consideration of cash awards. The FREE online course is available at <https://courses.uada.edu/course/index.php?categoryid=57>.

The Soybean Science Challenge is an educational project created by the University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture Cooperative Extension Service (UADA) and funded by the Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board to support secondary student scholarship and research to ensure the sustainability of soybean production in Arkansas. ■



Soybean Science Coordinator Diedre Young speaks July 14 at the FFA In-Service at Camp Couchdale in Hot Springs.

# Certified Arborist Workshop


The Division of Agriculture teamed up with the Arkansas Urban Forestry Council to help tree care workers prepare for the International Society of Arboriculture Certified Arborist exam.

The workshop was held June 7 in Conway and included training on pruning, tree risk assessment, soil science and management, tree worker safety, diagnosis of plant disorders, tree I.D., and tree biology.

Seventeen tree care workers attended the workshop, and 11 attendees took the exam immediately after the workshop.

Faulkner County Agent Krista Quinn coordinated people from the Division of Agriculture, Arkansas Forestry Division, and a local tree service to teach the workshop.

UADA speakers included Matt Fryer, Dr. Jim Robbins, Sherrie Smith and Krista Quinn. ■



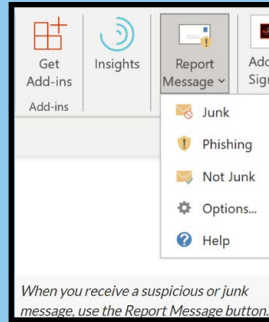
Faulkner County Agent, Krista Quinn, gives a presentation on pruning to tree care workers preparing to take the International Society of Arboriculture Certified Arborist exam.





## New Method to Report Junk and Phishing Emails

CES and AES IT Services have pushed “a new Report Message Button (RMB) to all Outlook and web Outlook users. Reporting these emails helps the Division protect your data and teaches the Microsoft filters to catch spam and suspicious email before it arrives in your inbox.



If you receive a junk email in your inbox, you can use the Report Message Button add-in to send the message to IT Services to help improve the spam filters. When you receive a suspicious or junk message, click the Report Message button (or if using Outlook on the web, select from the dropdown menu). For more info you can visit our website: <https://employees.uada.edu/rmb>.

## Did You Know?

Beginning Oct. 24, it will be mandatory to use 10-digit dialing for all calls within the 501 area code.



## What will be the New Dialing Procedure?

For local calls, dial the area code + telephone. This applies to all calls within your area code that are currently dialed with seven digits.

## Who will be Affected?

Anyone with a telephone number from the 501 area code will need to make this change from 7-digit local dialing to 10-digit local dialing. This will also affect other states and area codes. For more information, [click here](#). For a complete listing of affected area codes, [click here](#).

## Think Twice! Pro Tip for Sharing Accessible Documents

Have you ever downloaded a document from a reputable source and then uploaded that document to your UA website or webpage just to share the valuable information? If you have, then you have just taken responsibility for the document's adherence to accessibility compliance. A better way to keep the responsibility of conforming to accessibility guidelines for documents in digital

media is to leave it with the external organization and its author. You can still share the reputable resource by providing a link to the external website so your reader can access the information. This simple action of providing a link instead of uploading the page to our UADA website and webpages keeps you and UADA from being responsible for another organization's digital media compliance to accessibility standards. For more information on creating accessible documents, visit <https://uada.edu/employees/information-technology/web-accessibility/>.

Need social media graphics? Canva is fine to use for those with one caveat; you are responsible for adding any text shown in the graphic either in alt-text or in the caption of your social media post and ideally, describe anything that is happening in the graphic itself. Need help? Reach out to Amy Cole or Kristena Merritt.

## There's a new Specialist in Town

Dee Beam is the new accessibility specialist in the IT department. Dee has been with Extension for over four years in a part-time, contract position with Administration and Financial Services. Dee will be working on research, training, and education for Extension digital media. She will also use accessibility software to evaluate digital media content for compliance and will help train employees in making content they produce more accessible.

## Zoom Pro Tip – NEW Post-Meeting Surveys

Surveys are a great way to get feedback from attendees in Zoom Meetings. “Licensed” Zoom hosts can now have a post-meeting survey launch at the end of their scheduled meetings. The survey can be either a built-in survey created in the Zoom web portal or a link to a 3rd party survey such as Qualtrics. Check out Zoom's [Post-meeting survey and reporting directions](#). ■

## 2021 TECH TUESDAYS WEBINARS



Join us for the August 10th Tech

Tuesday webinar, “Data Visualization”. Register [here](#).

Did you miss the Tech Tuesday “Plugged In: Podcasting Success” webinar? Check out the blog post [here](#).

# Tech Changemakers are Making a Difference Across the State

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8



A team of 32 teens from across the state will soon host technology classes for adults in their respective communities as a part of the 4-H Tech Changemakers program.

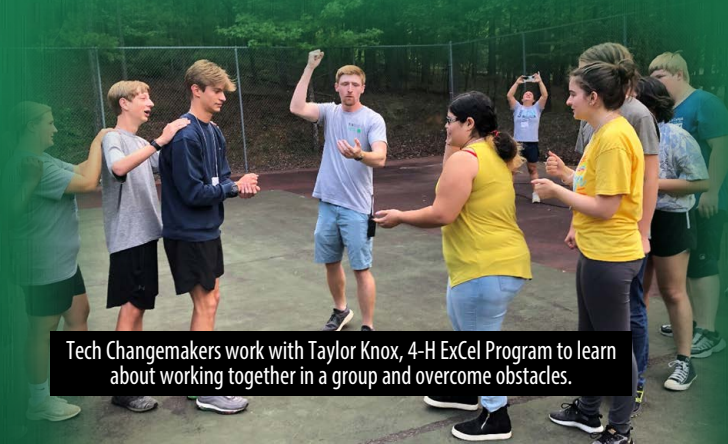
The youth will host classes to teach adults various technology-related skills to improve workforce skills and digital literacy in their communities.

This program is sponsored by National 4-H Council, Microsoft, Verizon, Tractor Supply Inc. and Land O'Lakes Inc. This is the first year that Arkansas has participated in this program.

The youth recently completed a three-day training at the Arkansas 4-H Center where they built relationships with team members from across the state, studied the economic makeup of their communities, brainstormed potential community partners, and reviewed ready-to-go lessons. Lessons for the community include email basics, online job searches, responsible online behavior, video conferencing, reliable online information, developing your career journey, and strong passwords. For more information about this program, contact Lori Canada at [lcanda@uada.edu](mailto:lcanda@uada.edu).

Five students in the Clay County 4-H Youth Leadership program plan to offer Tech Changemakers program as a community service project, a requirement of the leadership programs.

"I am very excited to see what these students will be doing in our community," said Clay County Extension Agent Debbie Baker, who coordinates the 4-H Youth Leadership program. "I have been asked many times about a program where students could teach older adults technology skills. This program is very much needed in our county." ■



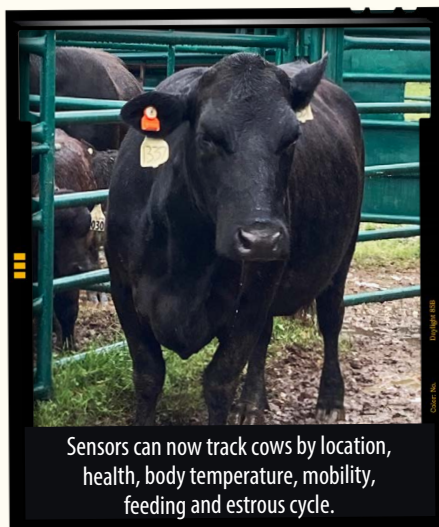
Tech Changemakers work with Taylor Knox, 4-H ExCel Program to learn about working together in a group and overcome obstacles.

## Beef Industry uses Precision Agriculture

During the past year, Southwest Research and Extension personnel have been experiencing a smart ear sensor donated by Select Sires of Plain City, Ohio. The donation included 50 CowManager sensors, which were installed in 50 commercial cows set up to breed AI. The donation also included a solar receiver and router which connected to the station's reproduction laboratory network.

CowManager is been mainly used by dairy farmers, but the SWREC's interest has been mainly on the savings of labor for estrus detection and early determination

of health issues in beef cattle industry, especially in feedlot situations where a trained labor shortage has been noted.



Sensors can now track cows by location, health, body temperature, mobility, feeding and estrous cycle.

These sensors track each cow — her location and health, including body temperature, mobility, feeding and estrous cycle. The sensor has no batteries and simply fits around an "840" or RFID tag. The solar-powered routers were installed near a water source, so when the cows come within 300 feet, the information stored in the sensor is downloaded. This technology along with other innovations are becoming more affordable, which enables beef producers to become more efficient in feeding our growing population. ■



# Extension Honored at Horticultural Society Conference

The American Society for Horticultural Science honored Extension staff with awards for Outstanding Educational Materials for two publications:

- *Electric Fence Designs for Detering White-Tailed Deer*, [www.uaex.uada.edu/publications/FSA9111.pdf](http://www.uaex.uada.edu/publications/FSA9111.pdf) — written by Becky McPeake, professor of forest resources – wildlife; Julia Fryer, program associate with the Food Systems and Food Safety; Kenny Simon, program associate-Animal Science; and Amanda Philyaw Perez, assistant professor, Food Systems and Food Safety.
- *Fall Farm Activity Guidelines & COVID-19 resource* — a partnership between Extension, the Arkansas Agritourism Association, and the Arkansas Department of Health. The resource is on Extension's Local Foods & COVID-19 Resources webpage.



Fryer accepted the award certificates at the conference's Extension Awards Breakfast on Aug. 8 in Denver. ■



# Computer Science Made Easy

Can computer science be taught without computers?! Of course! Arkansas 4-H has developed unplugged computer science activities to utilize with programs, clubs, and recruitment activities for anyone to lead. The activities can be found on the 4-H website along with resources for more information. The concepts covered in these activities are writing algorithms, pattern recognition, artificial intelligence, logic, and more. These activities can

be facilitated by anyone even if they don't have any background knowledge.

Kits have been created for agents to use for group activities or can package individually for at home usage. These would be great to recruit new 4-H members to county programs. For more information, contact Lori Canada at [lcanada@uada.edu](mailto:lcanada@uada.edu). ■



Junior 4-H'ers from Lonoke Co. learn about computer pixels in the Pixel Art activity.



Program Assistant Melanie Rogers joins in with Grant Co. cloverbuds for algorithm loops with the chicken dance routine.



# Competition Heats Up in Arkansas 4-H Food Challenge



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10

For people who live on a tight budget and have limited access to food, eating nutritionally balanced meals can be a challenge. Through 4-H, youth are learning this important life skill, and they recently showed just how creative they could be in preparing an inexpensive but nutritional meal as part of the Arkansas 4-H Food Challenge.

The competition, modeled after the Food Network's popular show "Chopped," was held at the University of Arkansas-Pulaski Technical College's Culinary and Hospitality Management Institute where teams had 40 minutes to prepare and present a dish. Fifteen teams participated from eight counties: Benton, Drew, Franklin, Grant, Howard, Madison, Saline and Yell counties.

Here was the competition twist: The chefs had to use ingredients available at dollar stores. Using canned beans, corn, chicken broth, canned chicken, cheese, mushrooms and tortilla chips, the young chefs whipped up an array of dishes from tortilla dip and taco bowls to chicken nachos and soups. A panel of Cooperative Extension Service family and consumer science agents and specialists scored the teams on preparation and presentation.

"The Arkansas 4-H Food Challenge is an ideal event to showcase the Healthy Living 4-H Project because it incorporates food and nutrition, decision making, utilizing available resources, teamwork and time management skills," said Angie Freil, associate 4-H department head. "Teams must work together to succeed in this hands-on event, and that's how 4-H instills life skills in its members. Practicing life skills through



Saline County 4-H members select ingredients while participating in the Arkansas 4-H Food Challenge held Aug. 6 at the University of Arkansas-Pulaski Technical College's Culinary and Hospitality Management Institute in Little Rock.

4-H experiences prepares them for using those same skills in different scenarios throughout their lives."

Howard County team of Alex Trombley, Adelene Westfall and Sarah Lamb who called themselves "Seniors with Spatulas" won first place and will compete next in the nationals in September in Texas. They impressed judges with burgers seasoned with basil and oregano and topped with sauteed mushrooms and melted cheese on toasted buns.

The challenge of creating meals with limited availability is a familiar one in Howard County, which has just two supermarkets. Some residents drive 45 minutes to get to a grocery store, said Jean Ince, staff chair for the Howard County Extension office.

In the junior division, the Madison County "Chopettes" took top honors with their chicken tortilla soup — and their matching black chef coats with their names in glitter. ■

## Union County Farm Tour

Union County 4-H members were given a tour of the Richland Creek Farm by the Rudder family. There was an air rifle that shot tennis balls at targets, a muscadine vineyard, pear trees, may haws, goats, a horse, chickens, and the children collected eggs. Children enjoyed a rope obstacle course, a big sand box with a slide, hay and barrel tunnel to run through, swings and plenty of games.

They also got to ride the Richland Creek Railroad (barrel carts barrels pulled by a big green tractor.) The evening ended with

homemade candy treats and fresh watermelon. ■



(Left to right) members from the HG Squad 4-H club on the train tour eating their watermelon treats, members of HG Squad and JMG clubs playing in the big sandbox, Haelyn S. running through one of the tunnels. Fun had by all.



## SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION

# Virtual Field Trips Focus on Soybean and Rice

The Soil and Water Conservation series recently hosted two virtual field trips focused on Arkansas' largest row crops.

Dr. Jeremy Ross, professor and extension soybean agronomist, hosted a June 22 field trip and gave an overview of the soybean industry in Arkansas. Industry speakers discussed soybean sustainability accountability programs available to all U.S. soybean producers.



Host & Speaker:  
Dr. Jeremy Ross(UADA)

Rice Research and Extension Center, also discussed the research sustainability practices at the new NRREC facility.

Combined, 281 participants from nine states joined the live webinar. The VFT recording can be viewed at <https://youtu.be/fc6KIBG7638>.

The Soil and Water Conservation Virtual Field Trip series is funded by USDA-NRCS. More information is available at [https://www.uaex.uada.edu/farm-ranch/special-programs/Education\\_in\\_Agriculture/virtual-field-trips.aspx](https://www.uaex.uada.edu/farm-ranch/special-programs/Education_in_Agriculture/virtual-field-trips.aspx). ■

Combined, 252 participants from nine states joined the live webinar. The VFT recording can be viewed at [https://youtu.be/\\_JdS1EIQTU4](https://youtu.be/_JdS1EIQTU4).

On June 29, Dr. Jarrod Hardke, rice extension agronomist, gave an overview of the Arkansas rice industry. Representatives from Riceland Foods, Anheuser-Busch and a local rice producer discussed their sustainability practices. Dr. Tim Burcham, director of the Northeast



Speakers (from left to right): Abby Rinne (USSEC), Brad Doyle (ASA), Derek Haigwood (Producer)

## Grants and Contracts

PROJECT TITLE	AWARD AMOUNT	PI	GRANTING AGENCY
SNAP-ED Program FY2022	2,144,681	Josh Phelps	Arkansas Department of Human Services
UACES Early Care and Education Projects (Best Care, Best Care Connected, Guiding Children Successfully, and 4-H Afterschool)	322,500	Brittney Schrick	Division of Child Care & Early Childhood Education (DCCECE)
ABC Best Care Program for FY22 (Best Care, Best Care Connected & Guiding Children Successfully)	225,625	Brittney Schrick	Arkansas Department of Education
2021 NRA Foundation Multi-County 4-H Shooting Sports Cash Awards	2,099	Jesse R. Bocksnick	National Rifle Association Foundation (NRA)
Arkansas Procurement Technical Assistance Program FY22	492,835	Melanie Berman	Defense Logistics Agency (DLA)
<b>TOTAL AWARDS FOR JULY 2021: \$ 3,187,740</b>			

# Boles Shares Formula for Resolving Conflict

Jack Boles, retired UADA Extension employee, shared his experience with conflict and his formula for resolution while he served as a county extension agent in Newton County in the July session of Leadership Lunch and Learn.

Boles described the history of different factions in Newton County and how he was tapped to serve as a facilitator to build common ground.


His conflict resolution process involves the following steps:

- Find a good time and place to talk.
- Discuss the problem/Clarify issues/Identify needs.
- Generate a variety of options (brainstorming).
- Choose a solution that works for everyone.
- Try the solution. If it doesn't work, go back and renegotiate.

For more information about the Leadership Lunch and Learn series, contact Julie Robinson, [jrobinson@uada.edu](mailto:jrobinson@uada.edu) or Lisa Davis, [ldavis@uada.edu](mailto:ldavis@uada.edu). ■

### Conflict Resolution Process

- ▶ Find a good time and place to talk.
- ▶ Discuss the problem/Clarify issues/Identify needs
- ▶ Generate a variety of options (brainstorming)
- ▶ Choose a solution that works for everyone
- ▶ Try the solution. If it doesn't work, go back and renegotiate.



Jack Boles, July 28, 2021

**LEADERSHIP LUNCH & LEARN**

# 4-H State O-Rama!



Quachita Team competes in consumer decision making during the state 4-H O-Rama competition at the Arkansas 4-H Center, July 30, 2021.



Arkansas 4-H members gathered at the 4-H Center in Ferndale, Ark. to recognize the achievements of many of its members, award scholarships and name new state officers.

Archers take aim. Taken July 30, 2021, part of Arkansas 4-H state O-Rama competition.

**To read about Faith F. Winning the Governor's Award** [click here.](#)

**To See all the Photos go to** <https://flic.kr/s/aHsmWi6oZQ>



# Benefits Corner



## How to access your total benefits cost in Workday:

1. Log in to Workday
2. Click the Benefits app, then view cost under Current Cost
3. Click the amount to view a detailed breakdown of cost

## How to change beneficiaries in Workday:

Go to your Workday page and select Benefits.

To add beneficiary information:

### Select Change Beneficiaries

- Click Add for each person
- Add beneficiary information: Name, date of birth, address, relationship, phone number, email and gender

To assign beneficiaries for your life insurance elections:

### Select Change Benefits

- In the drop-down box, select Beneficiary Change Only and current date and Submit
- A box will appear and select Open
- Click on Let's Get Started
- This page shows all your life insurance elections. Click on the Manage button at the bottom of each life insurance coverage
- Click on Confirm and Continue button
- Click on the + next to Beneficiary and a blank box will appear.
- Click on the three dashes on the right to select Existing Beneficiary Persons
- Select your beneficiary and add the percentage for each beneficiary to the right
- If you have more than one beneficiary, you will need to click the + to add additional beneficiaries. You will need to add beneficiaries for each benefit.

Have questions? Human Resources can be reached at [yourbenefits@uada.edu](mailto:yourbenefits@uada.edu). ■

# Personnel Changes

## Welcome Aboard:

**Hunter Goodman** - Assistant Professor, Community, Professional, & Economic Development, Little Rock

**Kelly Baranyk** - 4-H Program Assistant, Carroll County

**Kishan Mahmud** - Soil Health Ecologist - Post Doctoral Fellow, Crop, Soil & Environmental Sciences

**Shaney Hill** - County Extension Agent - Staff Chair, Union County

## Farewell to:

**Dana Stringfellow** - Administrative Specialist III, Sevier County

**Barbara Graves** - Administrative Specialist II, Phillips County

**Cynthia Elaine Rorie** - County Extension Agent - Staff Chair, Crittenden County

**Jennifer Ellen Pruitt** - Administrative Specialist III, Saline County

**Kylie Harris** - County Extension Agent - Staff Chair, Searcy County

**Lynnette Rancifer** - Program Technician - Arkansas Procurement Technical Assistance Center, Community, Professional, & Economic Development, Little Rock

**Ebony Wallace-Morrow** - 4-H Program Assistant, Pope County

**Joyce E. Mendenhall** - Administrative Specialist I, Washington County

