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BLUE LETTER

August 2017
No. 3784



Division staff members receive accolades from stakeholders

July has passed and August is upon us, and the crazy year continues.

Speaking of which, I sincerely appreciate all of the notes of support received about the director appointment announcement. I will continue to do the best I can, and certainly recognize the responsibility and privilege of this opportunity. Please remember that I do not think of CES as a “thing” but as a group of dedicated people – you. Given that, I work for you, and I take it seriously – my responsibility to help you achieve excellence.

Speaking of excellence, in this position, I receive daily feedback from stakeholders about our programs. Some of these will be in this Blue Letter while others may not, but I will mention some.

State O-Rama – I attended in Fayetteville and received many positive accolades while there and after. Many thanks to Angie Freeland, Dr. Sartor, Priscella Thomas-Scott and all of the 4-H staff involved - well done! What a huge and complex undertaking. I confess to being a bit intimidated during the awards ceremony, mainly from listening to the accomplishments of our young people – awesome. Gives one hope. Our 4-H state officers are incredible young leaders.

Rice Expo – I attended this always-interesting and intense event again last week near Stuttgart and really appreciate all of the Division staff who give their all each year to this, and it paid off. While there, I was hit with positive comments about the speaker, “bugs and the clinic,” the Leigh Ann Bullington and Keith Cleek show, Emily Thompson, the tours (great and organized) and the catfish lunch again. Outstanding.

Related to the Expo was the Rice College – hosted by Jarrod Hardke and our faculty at the Rice Research and Extension Center – the day before with what must have been 120-150 very serious attendees, representing some of our largest row crop operations in the Delta. All were positive after the event and gave kudos to our faculty and staff and the station. Relevant and excellent!

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FROM THE DIRECTOR

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Dr. Kelly Loftin and DeGray State Park employee Garrett Warren prepare a fire ant mound for fly release.

Flies released at DeGray Lake as fire ant control measure

Approximately 700 flies that parasitize fire ants were released Thursday, July 27, at DeGray Lake Resort State Park. Extension entomologist Dr. Kelly Loftin reared the flies in his lab and, assisted by Clark County extension agent Amy Simpson, dug into 16 fire ant mounds at the state park to release the flies. The project was the joint effort of Hot Spring agent Rachael Bearden, Simpson and Loftin.

The two species released were *Pseudacteon obtusus* and *Pseudacteon cultellatus*.

These flies are natural predators of fire ants. They each can inject approximately 200 eggs in as many fire ants. Each egg is injected into the thorax, then the larvae migrates to the head capsule of the ant. The larvae go through three instars, and then as the pupa begins to form, the contents of the head are consumed. This kills the ant and leads to the head falling off.

According to Dr. Loftin, fire ants are suppressed by the nervousness that the flies cause more than by the decapitations. When the *Pseudacteon* flies are present, the fire ants are more subdued and try to stay hidden to reduce the chance of attack. This means the ants are less aggressive and less likely to move around foraging for food. ■



Dr. Kelly Loftin prepares to shade the fire ant mound for fly release.

UAPB Field Day set for Friday, Sept. 8

The University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff Agriculture Field Day will be Friday, Sept. 8, at the UAPB Agriculture Research Station on Oliver Road, off University Drive.

The field day begins at 7:30 a.m. with registration followed by welcoming remarks at 8:30 a.m. Field tours begin at 9 a.m. with the last tour at 11 a.m. Tractor tours will take participants to educational stops.

Demonstration stop topics include crops and weed control for organic rice, local food production systems, natural treatments for parasites in goats, sweet potato seed production using virus-indexed slips, sweet potato weed control, honey bees – the best pollinators, soil quality under cover crops, sweet potato rotations and southern cowpea varieties.

New this year is a sweet potato cooking contest. To participate, entrants should submit their original sweet potato-based recipes to Rachel Will at willr@uapb.edu or 1200 North University Drive, Mail Slot 4966, Pine Bluff, Arkansas, 71601, by Aug. 17. Pie recipes are not eligible for the contest.

Lunch will be provided by Tyson Foods, Inc., but only with a ticket included with registration materials.

Registration is free, but pre-registration is requested to aid in planning. To pre-register, contact Margaret Taylor at (870) 575-7144 or taylorml@uapb.edu. On-site registration ends at 10:30 a.m. ■



Angel Works Luncheon participants enjoyed food provided by Newton County EHC members.

2017 Angel Works Luncheon a success

The Annual Angel Works Spring Luncheon was held May 3 at the Angel Works Building in Jasper. Newton County EHC members provided salads, sandwiches and dessert for those attending the luncheon.

Approximately 20 people from around the county enjoyed good food and fellowship while raising funds for the Angel Works programs that support their clients. Angel Works, which operates a used merchandise business in Jasper, generates an estimated \$400,000 in annual revenue and employs approximately 15 people.

Angel Works clients and management provided several prizes so those present could buy tickets and hope to win. Attendees also enjoyed some great entertainment, both singing and jokes, provided by Luke and Christopher. ■

20th Annual State Plant Board Symptomology Training held

On July 20, Dr. Bob Scott, extension weed scientist, and Dr. Cal Shumway, professor with Arkansas State University, reached a milestone. For the 20th consecutive year, they hosted the annual training on herbicide symptomology for the inspectors of the Arkansas State Plant Board (ASPB).



Demonstration plot.

“With the exception of one year when I was on my honeymoon, I have not missed a single one,” stated Scott.

The training is designed to teach and update the state inspectors on herbicide symptoms caused by various chemicals, both currently labeled and products soon to be released.

“We believe that this training makes Arkansas inspectors some of the best in the nation and provides a method to verify that inspectors have been educated when this is called into question during hearings and other legal proceedings,” says Brandi Reynolds, assistant director of the Pesticide Division of the ASPB.

To mark the occasion of 20 years of annually creating these plots, Scott and Shumway, with major help from division personnel including Amy Cole, Yvonne McCool and others, created the herbicide symptomology database, which can be found at <https://plants.uaex.edu/herbicide/default.aspx> ■



Bob Scott talks to inspectors from the Arkansas State Plant Board about new herbicides coming for soybean.

Officer helps Craighead County 4-H'er with dyslexia triumph over driver's test

Gabby Edison is a teen driver with dyslexia. She struggled to pass her driver's test to get her learner's permit.

Gabby is an honor roll student who knows the Arkansas driver's manual from cover to cover, yet she failed three times to pass the written test. Each time she took the test, she missed a few too many questions.

“Some of the questions – the way they were worded – confused me,” says Gabby.

Because of her dyslexia, Gabby sometimes struggles with reading comprehension and writing. At school, she has an individualized education program and gets accommodations, like audiobooks and having questions read aloud to her when it's helpful.

The DMV in Jonesboro, Gabby's hometown, was unable to make accommodations for her dyslexia, so her father, Jerry Edison, took to Facebook and asked if any friends knew someone in law enforcement who could help.

Thanks to the power of social media, the family learned about Officer Scotty Dail. He's spent nearly 21 years administering the written and driving skills tests for the Arkansas State Police at the DMV in nearby Walnut Ridge. Dail has been providing accommodations to people who need them.

“If I see someone who looks like they don't understand something on the test, I tell them not to be afraid to ask me a question,” Dail says. He won't give test-takers the answers. He only makes sure they understand the question. Dail adds that a driver's license is very important in the rural area where Gabby's family lives. “There isn't any public transportation here.”

Kim and Gabby headed over to Walnut Ridge. With Dail's support, Gabby passed the test in about 10 minutes. How did he help?

“He would give me an image or help me visualize the scenario in a question,” Gabby says.

“We were just ecstatic that there was someone willing to do that, to give her a fair chance,” her mother adds.

This story is based on a blog entry by Geri Coleman Tucker on *Making a Difference, Understood.org* (used with permission). To see the full story, go to <http://x.brightsolutions.us/w.aspx?j=322396704&m=0277407643154a9b9ca1407672e217c2> (The Dreaded Drivers Test). ■

Arkansas delegation attends national meeting and improvement conference

A delegation of 25 county extension agents along with retired agent Jesse Clark and District Director Jerry Clemons attended the National Association of County Agricultural Agents Annual Meeting and Improvement Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah, July 9-13.

Participants and their families had a wonderful opportunity to experience professional improvement tours, workshops and programs to gain new ideas for educational programing as well as share successful local programs with agents from all over the country. Many of the Arkansas county agents presented posters or talks showcasing their county educational programs or research. Several agents were state or regional winners and were recognized for their efforts.

Three agents received the 2017 Achievement Award from the National Association. This award is given to agents with 10 years or less of service in the Cooperative Extension Service who have exhibited

excellence in the field of extension education. This year's award recipients were Grant Beckwith, Arkansas County, Sara Beth Johnson, Lonoke County, and Kevin Van Pelt, Conway County.

Three agents received the 2017 Distinguished Service Award. The purpose of this award

is to encourage and recognize excellence in the field of professional extension for members with more than 10 years of service. This award is given to less than 2 percent of the membership and to fellow workers who have conducted outstanding programs, are held in high esteem by their fellow workers and are approved by the State Director of Extension. This year's Distinguished Service Award recipients were Kevin Lawson, Perry County, Rex Herring, Sevier County, and Shaun Rhoades, Scott County.

Utah hosted a great national meeting. Many of the delegates from Arkansas were able to take in some local sights while visiting Salt Lake City. Arkansas hosted this meeting in 2016. ■

Lonoke, Prairie Counties host Wild West day camp

Wild West was the theme for Cloverbud and Junior day camps held in Lonoke and Prairie counties this summer. The four-day camps in the two counties reached 67 youth. Campers had the opportunity to shoot archery, run in a stick horse barrel race, learn about cattle brands, herd "pigs" (pictured), as well as make dream catchers, guitars and trail mix. The camps wrapped up with barnyard Olympic games. ■



The Arkansas delegation.



Distinguished Service Award recipients Kevin Lawson, Rex Herring and Shaun Rhoades.

Achievement Award winners Grant Beckwith, Sara Beth Johnson and Kevin Van Pelt.

BENEFITS CORNER

Preventive care exams can save your life.

Regular preventive care exams are key to identifying risk factors and health problems before they become serious. Many diseases and deaths can be prevented by making healthy choices such as not smoking, staying at a healthy weight, eating right, keeping active and getting recommended screening tests.

Here is a list of some of the most important exams, screenings and vaccinations you should be keeping up with. (Keep in mind that some are age and gender specific.)

- Annual physical – *Don't forget to schedule a Biometric Screening at the Little Rock State Office in classroom 3 on Sept. 7, 2017, from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. and 1 p.m.-4 p.m. or with your PCP now until Sept. 30, 2017.*
- Cholesterol
- Glucose
- Blood pressure
- Cancer screenings (breast, cervical, colorectal, prostate, skin)
- Dental exams
- Flu shot – *Get your flu shot at the Little Rock State Office in conference room 107 on Oct. 19, 2017, from 10 a.m.-12 p.m.*
- Immunizations
- Eye exam
- Osteoporosis
- Depression

Take charge of your health today! If you haven't already done so, schedule an appointment with your health care provider to discuss what screenings and exams you need and when you need them.

Please keep your home address updated in Banner Self Service.

First Arkansas Show Camp held in Fayetteville

The first Arkansas Show Camp was held June 26-27 at the Washington County Fairgrounds in Fayetteville.

Thirty-seven 4-H and FFA members from across the state attended the event to learn more about their projects. Participants brought cattle, goats, sheep or hogs and learned from expert instructors about daily care, grooming, fitting, showmanship, nutrition and selection.

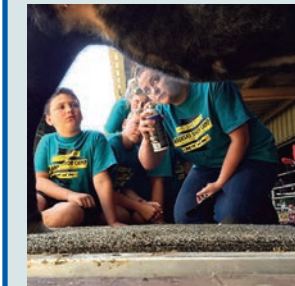
Not only did the participants learn hands on about their projects and what to expect on the day of show, but they had some fun as well. They took a break and spent a couple hours at Lokomotion where they rode go-carts, bumper boats, bumper cars and played mini golf and laser tag.

Cattle participants learned from Olivia Foster the ins and outs of showing cattle, along with help from Tyler Dewey and Caleb Russell. Cindy Ham and Stacey Stone paired up on the goat section and instilled a lot of great showmanship skills. Denise Trotter taught sheep participants anything from clipping to skillathon questions. She had excellent assistants including Mesa Kutz, Zack Kendrick and Elkins FFA students. Allen Davis did a fantastic job of teaching the swine participants all the ends and outs of exhibiting swine.

Without the knowledge from these instructors and support from our sponsors, including Purina, Fayetteville Co-Op, Elanco and Boehringer-Ingelheim, this camp would not have been successful. ■



Thirty-seven participants attended the first Arkansas Show Camp at the Washington County Fairgrounds June 26-27.



Carroll County agriculture extension agent Olivia Foster demonstrates how to fit a heifer.



Greene County staff chair Allen Davis demonstrates how to calmly and safely load a hog on scales for weighing.



Clark County 4-H extension agent Cindy Ham assists a participant with clipping her goat.

Small grant leads to BIG numbers

While attending a national conference and seeing public service announcements for urban residents to prevent pollution in runoff, the NWA stormwater educators thought this might be a good fit here.

Receiving less than \$5,000 in grant funds, three commercials were branded with the NWA information. The commercials were shown via eight different channels on Cox Cable and posted to social media over a four-month period. A total of 608 messages were shown (32 per week) to nearly 65,000 households.

An evaluation piece was created to determine effectiveness. The Qualtrics survey was submitted and approved by the U of A Internal Review Board.

The survey was emailed to more than 600 individuals and posted to Facebook and Twitter.

Overall, 167 individuals responded with 34 percent subscribing to Cox Cable. Of those who recognized the characters from the commercials, 38.5 percent reported seeing the characters on cable and 73 percent on social media. The responses about changes in behavior were surprising, with 7.7 percent of those who recognized the characters reporting they stopped dumping chemicals because of what they learned and 19 percent saying they stopped putting leaves and grass in ditches.

When asked, "After viewing the commercials, do you understand the actions you need to take to prevent pollution from entering the water?," 38.5 percent reported Yes, 0 percent No, 3.8 percent Unsure, and 57.7 percent said they already knew how to prevent pollution. Because of the favorable outcomes of the commercials, they will continue on another innovative outreach method – the local gas station television network. ■



Sgt. Red and his friend Mingo discuss ways for urban residents to prevent water pollution.

Bradley County team takes honors in National 4-H Forestry Invitational

An Arkansas team from Hermitage in Bradley County placed first among 15 states competing in the 38th annual National 4-H Forestry Invitational for the second straight year. Teams from Florida and Louisiana placed second and third, respectively.

The Invitational was held July 30-Aug. 3 at West Virginia University Jackson's Mill State 4-H Camp and Conference Center near Weston, West Virginia.

At the Invitational, 4-H members competed for overall team and individual awards in several categories. Events included tree identification, tree measurement, compass and pacing, insect and disease identification, topographic map use, forest evaluation, the forestry bowl and a written forestry exam.

Arkansas team members were Samantha Clanton, Curtis Sellers, Carolyn Morman and Logan Williams. The team was coached by Taylor Gwin from Hermitage.

Samantha Clanton from Arkansas won the high point individual award. All four team members scored in the top ten. The second-place high individual was Harrison Sharp from Florida, and the third place high individual was Emily Welte from Tennessee.

The event is sponsored by Farm Credit System, Sustainable Forestry Initiative, Inc., USDA Forest Service State and Private Southern Region, West Virginia University Extension Service, American Forest Foundation, Southern Regional Extension Forestry, Association of Natural Resource Extension Professionals, National Woodland Owners Association and Black Diamond Resource Conservation and Development Council. ■



Bradley County team which placed first at the National 4-H Forestry Invitational.

Teen Club develops table etiquette program

For its community service project, the Jasper Pirate Pride Teen 4-H Club developed a program on table etiquette for members of other 4-H Clubs in Newton County.

The teen members first discussed the rules for manners when dining at the table in two separate meetings. It was decided that knowing how to use a knife correctly when cutting meat, which piece of flatware to use when you have three forks or what to do with that napkin was something that everyone should know.

One member told how her sister had interviews in social situations that required table and social manners when interviewing for college scholarships. The group also realized that some job interviews in their future might require them to be able to use correct table manners to land the perfect job.



Newton Co. 4-H'ers practice table etiquette, left to right: Joshua Faught, Silas Faught, Emma Helmuth, Violet Mefford and Hannah Adamson.

Five of the club members participated in the training session at the Ozark Café in Jasper on Monday, April 17. They are ready to share what they have learned in Table Manners 101 with the rest of the clubs in the county as well as other groups and organizations.

For more information on this class or 4-H in Newton County, please call Marsha Horton at (870) 446-2240. ■

Arkansas Procurement Assistance Center welcomes NASA

The Arkansas Procurement Assistance Center, APAC, part of the Community and Economic Development unit, in collaboration with the Arkansas Small Business Technology and Development Center, hosted a "Doing Business with NASA" workshop on Thursday, July 20, at the

Reynolds Business Center atrium on the campus of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. The workshop included matchmaking sessions, in which representatives from NASA agencies were available to meet one-on-one with business owners to answer questions about contracting with their government agency. Several APAC clients took part in the event to market their business to NASA. Melanie Berman, APAC Program Manager, presented to the more than 50 attendees on how we may support small business owners in selling their goods and services to NASA as well as other federal, state and local government agencies. For more information on how you can help business owners in your county learn how to sell to the government, contact APAC at apac@uaex.edu or (501) 671-2390. Check out future training opportunities at <http://uaex.edu/apac>. ■



APAC Program Associates Mary Love and Max Franks teaching clients about how to sell goods and services to the government.

Staff receives accolades (continued)

I have had lots of feedback about our Herbicide Symptomology Training – the 20th year for Bob Scott and Cal Shumway to host this field training for the Plant Board field inspectors. Attendees learn about symptoms caused by different herbicides on various crops. Have heard comments like "badly needed," "keep it up," "outstanding" and many comments about the online related photo database on our website, thanks to Amy Cole and IT staff. Great job.

Quite a few agents attended the National County Ag Agents meeting in Utah last month, with Kevin Van Pelt, Sara Beth Johnson, and Grant Beckwith recognized for Achievement and Rex Herring, Kevin Lawson, and Shaun Rhoades receiving the Distinguished Service Awards. Congratulations!

Bradley County and their forestry 4-H team won the National Contest for the second year in a row, and Samantha Clanton was the No. 1 individual. Simply awesome.

Melanie Berman in APAC is really bringing new life and direction to this program, helping host the "Doing Business with NASA" workshop at UALR recently as an example. Outstanding work!

I hope all of you have a great August and please know that, together, we are going to do even greater work in Cooperative Extension and for the Division of Agriculture over the next few years. Hang on.

– Dr. Rick Cartwright ■

What's new in publications? Find out at:
<http://www.uaex.edu/publications/new.aspx>



Newton County staff chair Adam Willis and White County agent Sherri Sanders take part in an exercise at the APAC in-service to match the amount of government contract to the type of service requested.

Arkansas Procurement Assistance Center holds successful in-service for county agents

The Arkansas Procurement Assistance Center, part of the Community and Economic Development unit, in collaboration with the Arkansas Small Business Technology and Development Center, hosted a “Doing Business with NASA” workshop on Thursday, July 20, at the Reynolds Business Center atrium on the campus of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

The workshop included matchmaking sessions, in which representatives from NASA agencies were available to meet one-on-one with business owners to answer questions about contracting with their government agency. Several APAC clients took part in the event to market their business to NASA. Melanie Berman, APAC program manager, presented to the more than 50 attendees on how to support small business owners in selling their goods and

services to NASA as well as other federal, state and local government agencies.

For more information on how you can help business owners in your county learn how to sell to the government, contact APAC at apac@uaex.edu or (501) 671-2390. Check out future training opportunities at <http://uaex.edu/apac>. ■

Johnson County 4-H'er recognized at 4-H FilmFest

Johnson County 4-H member Savannah Loving attended the 7th Annual National 4-H Film Festival in Independence, Missouri, July 23-26. The FilmFest is a collaboration between Missouri 4-H and the Missouri Film Office.

Loving made and submitted six films, one in each of the categories offered. She placed in four of the six categories and was the first person to ever submit a film in all six categories.

Loving placed third in Rock Hero (one minute) and 4-H is Awesome (promotional); second in Marvelous Tale of AB Graham (history) and Where the Buffalo Roams (documentary).

“I’m so proud of Savannah,” said Jeanie Rowbotham, Johnson County extension agent. “I can’t say enough about this young lady. She set a goal to submit films at this year’s festival. Not only did she submit six films, but she also turned her passion into an educational activity for the entire county. She planned and coordinated a film/acting daycamp, a premiere to showcase her films, made flyers and a movie trailer.”

In addition to film screenings, teens attended workshops geared towards them by film industry professionals. Savannah’s films can be viewed on YouTube Crescent Moon Productions. ■



Morgan Dameron, a writer/director who was production assistant to director JJ Abrams, with Savannah Loving at 2017 National 4-H Film Festival.

Miller County 4-H learns about water safety

Miller County 4-Hers made a pledge of water safety at the Back to Nature day camp, Thursday, July 20, at the Boy Scouts Camp Preston Hunt in Texarkana, Arkansas.

Christy Swain, co-founder of Ryan’s Call Foundation, along with her husband Charles, was one of several presenters who braved the extreme hot temperatures to educate youth about safety on and around the water. Ryan’s Call Foundation is a Christian-faith based nonprofit organization established in memory of Ryan Swain, the Swains’ 17-year-old son who lost his life in a drowning accident while on a duck hunting trip.



Day camp participants take the water safety pledge.

Christy Swain asked the youth to sign a pledge promising to be safe around the water, never swim alone and always wear a life vest. Ryan’s Call Foundation donated 100 life jackets.

To learn more about water safety or the water safety pledge, visit www.ryanscall.org. ■

Poinsett County 4-H member experiences life on the farm

First-year Poinsett County 4-H member Justin Jones had the opportunity to experience his Animal Science project in action during a recent tour to Helms Dairy in Arkadelphia.

Jones, who lives in the heart of the Delta and “crop” country, learned about milk production from field to truck – from helping harvest silage to assisting in the milking parlor – Jones saw the process from feed harvesting to milk storage. While on the trip, he also learned about muscadine and grape production, pigs, poultry and horticulture.

As a special highlight, Jones and his mother had the opportunity to spend time with Arkadelphia native and entrepreneur Martha Dixon. Dixon shared her story of how hard work and determination led her to a successful career in fashion and leadership, including designing and creating inaugural ball gowns for Hillary Clinton. ■



Justin Jones and his mother, Amanda, spent a day learning about production animal agriculture at Helms Dairy in Arkadelphia.



Justin Jones sits atop a tractor as part of his recent 4-H agriculture day project visit to Helms Dairy.



Understanding the FSMA Produce Rule for Growers

The FDA Food Safety Modernization Act was signed into law January of 2011. The act’s Produce Rule will require some growers to complete training and receive certification. Cornell University’s Produce Safety Alliance has developed a national produce safety training program to prepare fresh produce growers with the information needed to be in compliance. The Producer Rule establishes science-based standards for growing, harvesting, packing and holding produce on domestic and foreign farms. Learn about key requirements at <https://www.fda.gov/downloads/Food/GuidanceRegulation/FSMA/UCM472887.pdf>

Arkansas growers will need to complete a PSA training by compliance dates based on their annual (three-year average) gross produce sales, with larger growers (more than \$500,000) being required to be in compliance by January 26, 2018. Smaller (less than \$250,000 but less than \$500,000) and very small growers (\$25,000 but less than \$250,000) will be required to be in compliance in January 2019 and 2020, respectively. Learn about exemptions and inclusions here: <https://www.fda.gov/downloads/Food/GuidanceRegulation/FSMA/UCM472499.pdf>

Dr. Amanda Philyaw Perez, assistant professor and Food Safety extension specialist, will lead grower trainings in Arkansas later this year. Dr. Perez is working on her Lead Certification and will share future trainings and federal regulatory updates at www.uaex.edu/arkansas-produce-safety. Stay tuned. ■

Grants and Contracts for Month Ending July 31, 2017

Project Title	Award Amount	Principal Investigator	Granting Agency
UACES Early Care and Education Projects (Best Care, Best Care Connected, Guiding Children Successfully, and 4-H Afterschool)	322,500	Brittney Schrick	DHS Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education
Arkansas Procurement Technical Assistance Program (PTAP) Non-Distressed, FY18	214,309	Melanie Berman	Defense Logistics Agency
DLA Procurement Technical Assistance Program (PTAP) Distressed, FY18	194,350	Melanie Berman	Defense Logistics Agency
SNAP-ED Prog/18/Rodibaugh	2,100,000	Rosemary Rodibaugh	Arkansas Department of Human Services
Total Awards for July 2017	\$ 2,831,159		

Personnel changes

Please welcome the following:

Nick Bateman, Assistant Professor/Crop Entomologist, Entomology, effective July 3, 2017.

Jason Braziel, County Extension Agent - 4-H/Agriculture, Hot Spring County, effective June 16, 2017.

Matt Brown, Assistant Director of Operations, Office of Finance and Administration, effective July 3, 2017.

Leah Collie, Program Associate - Soybean, Crop, Soil and Environmental Sciences, effective July 3, 2017.

Ashley Dingman, Program Associate - 4-H Afterschool, 4-H and Youth Development, effective July 3, 2017.

Rita Fleming, Division - CFO, Office of Vice President for Agriculture, effective July 3, 2017.

Kim Frachiseur, 4-H Program Assistant, Sevier County, effective July 3, 2017.

Megan Perkins, Program Technician - Weed Science, Crop, Soil and Environmental Sciences, effective July 3, 2017.

Katie Sullivan, Program Associate, Southwest Research and Extension Center, effective July 3, 2017.

Extension says goodbye to:

Brianna Brassfield, County Extension Agent - 4-H, Sebastian County, effective July 6, 2017.

Angie Burkett, EFNEP Program Assistant, Woodruff County, effective July 7, 2017.

Patsy Carter, Administrative Specialist, Ag Economics and Ag Business, effective July 21, 2017.

Judy Fenton, Administrative Specialist, Benton County, effective July 5, 2017.

Kerri Jones, Administrative Specialist, Van Buren County, effective July 14, 2017.

Becky Kersen, 4-H Program Assistant, Pope County, effective July 7, 2017.

Lauren Milum, Administrative Specialist, Marion County, effective July 31, 2017.

Jerrie Nelson, EFNEP Program Assistant, Craighead County, effective July 31, 2017.

Nora Terry, Administrative Specialist, Cleveland County, effective July 31, 2017.

Laura Trotter, County Extension Agent - Family and Consumer Sciences, Calhoun County, effective July 14, 2017.

Ashley Williams, County Extension Agent - Family and Consumer Sciences, Pulaski County, effective July 28, 2017.

University of Arkansas, United States Department of Agriculture, and County Governments Cooperating

Pursuant to 7 CFR § 15.3, the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture offers all its Extension and Research programs and services (including employment) without regard to race, color, sex, national origin, religion, age, disability, marital or veteran status, genetic information, sexual preference, pregnancy or any other legally protected status, and is an equal opportunity institution.