



Keeping you connected

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November 2019

UofA
DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE
RESEARCH & EXTENSION
University of Arkansas System

No. 11

2019 Regional Retiree Events Overview

Over 180 retirees, retiree spouses and CES Administration gathered at the four Regional Retiree Events for fellowship, catching up on the latest CES news and to have lunch. We were thankful to have Tony Ronchetto from AR Blue Cross & Blue Shield join us at each of the Regional Meetings for an update for those retirees with Federal Blue Cross & Blue Shield Insurance. Each meeting featured a different program area highlight: Fayetteville - Katie Teague, NW Arkansas Water Quality, Hope - Jennifer Caraway, Miller County Feral Hog Control, Little Rock - Leigh Ann Bullington, Woodruff County Nutrition Programming, and Jonesboro - Tim Burcham, Plans for the NE Arkansas Rice Research & Extension Center.

We hope you enjoy a few photos from the fall events. Maybe you will find yourself in one of them! 



CARTWRIGHT SPEAKS — Extension Director Rick Cartwright addresses retirees Nov. 1 at Little Rock.



Retirees gather for a group photo during the regional meeting in Fayetteville.



Celia Shireman and Sharon Reynolds visit during the extension retiree meeting in Fayetteville.



Karla Van Brunt, door prize winner, accepts a Richard Despain print in during the regional meeting in Fayetteville.

Find more photos on the
[**UAEX Photostream!**](#)

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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.

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Retiree Events *(Cont. from page 1)*



Extension Director Rick Cartwright hands John Lee a Richard DeSpain print he won as a door prize at the Nov. 1 extension retirees gathering in Little Rock.



Retirees gather for a group photo during the extension retiree meeting in Jonesboro.



Shirlye Hopkins and Alberta James visit with Sam Boyster during the extension retiree gathering in Hope.



Millie Henson and Becky Mulhollen catch up at the Jonesboro meeting.



Linda Buckley-Chappell and Nita Cooper at the Fayetteville meeting.

To Our Extension Retirees

November is here, with all of the excitement of unpredictable weather and then Thanksgiving. I hope all of you have a great Thanksgiving!

I was grateful to see many of you at the recent fall retiree events scattered around the state. As always, I learned a lot from you and it was great to catch up. I hope these events help you stay in touch with each other, and that we let you know how much all of us today are in your debt. We remain committed to keeping things going, and to keep improving on the legacy you built. I appreciate Brian Helms and Jenifer Forrest for organizing these, and keeping all of us in the loop, and the assorted staff that attend, help or otherwise support this effort.

With that in mind, we continue to work on renovating the facilities for which you are partly responsible. I have come to realize, painfully at times, that somehow we have to find some resources to fix, renovate or even expand our



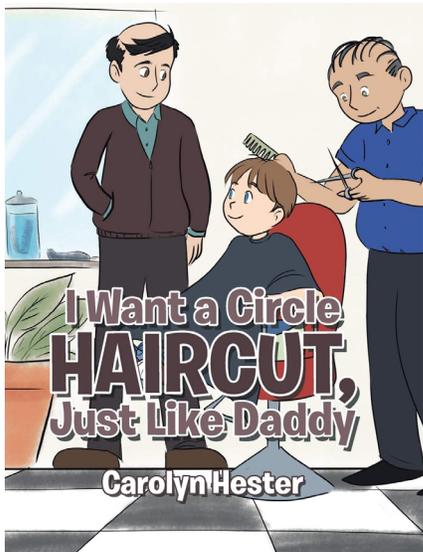
Writing in Retirement

Former Cross County extension agent Carolyn Hester has taken up a new hobby in retirement: writing children's books.

Two of her books have been published, and a third is in the works. All three stories were also inspired by her own children. The first book "Where did Yesterday Go?" - published in 2018 - takes its title from the question asked by Hester's son Kyle, whom she credits with giving her the idea for the book.

"One night when I couldn't sleep, I got up and wrote it," she said.

The manuscript, however, stayed in her computer for nearly two years until she saw an ad for Christian Faith Publishing and called. The second book - "I Want a Circle Haircut Just Like Daddy" - was published earlier this year and is based on her son Kent's first trip to the barbershop. Hester's daughter, Kara, is the inspiration for the third book, "My Sugar Bowl has Long Legs," which is being edited.



Hester's second book, "I Want a Circle Haircut, Just Like Daddy"

Cartwright (Cont. from page 2)

facilities. It is true that these things do not fix themselves, or get better over time, they need care and some investment periodically. So that is where we are today.

This includes the C.A. Vines Arkansas 4-H Center, which you helped build, and it reaches its 40th anniversary in October of 2020. The 4-H Foundation Board and extension staff will be working over the next few months to plan and carry out an anniversary event October 2020. I am mentioning it now in case all of you want to be involved in some way, there will be more details forthcoming, but you might put down October 22, 2020, on your calendar now. This is a big deal, and we should treat it as one.

Again, I wish each of you a wonderful Thanksgiving, and appreciate your commitment to your families, they come first. And I appreciate that you all have treated me like family, you have my sincere thanks. ☺



Carolyn Hester donated a copy of her first book, "Where Did Yesterday Go?", as a door prize at the regional retiree meeting in Jonesboro.

Hester, who lives in Wynne, taught high school home economics for 30 years and then moved to Illinois where she worked in extension at the University of Illinois, Champagne-Urbana. After returning to Arkansas, she worked five years as an FCS agent before retiring in 2000.

She recently attended the regional retirees meeting in Jonesboro and donated a book as a door prize. Her books are sold on Amazon and through Barnes & Noble. ☺

December Birthdays

Dr. Dick Kluender, Dec 1
 Mr. Paul Martin, Dec 1
 Mrs. Romona Thieme, Dec 1
 Ms. Becky O'Neal Mulhollen, Dec 1
 Ms. Dena Malone, Dec 2
 Ms. Linda Thompson, Dec 6
 Mrs. Toy Helen Ginn Siler, Dec 8
 Mrs. Barbara King, Dec 8
 Mr. Richard DeSpain, Dec 9
 Dr. Susan Watkins, Dec 9
 Mr. Albert Squires, Dec 9
 Mrs Margaret Alexander, Dec 10
 Ms. Darlene Horne, Dec 10
 Mrs. Joyce Bowlin, Dec 10
 Mr. Jerry Foley, Dec 11

Ms. Shirley Lewis, Dec 11
 Mr. Claude Clement Jr., Dec 12
 Mrs. Ann Behnke, Dec 12
 Ms. Millie Henson, Dec 13
 Dr. Donna Graham, Dec 14
 Mr. Jerry Markham, Dec 14
 Ms. Brenda Yusko, Dec 18
 Ms. Mary Askew, Dec 19
 Mrs. Maureen Rose, Dec 21
 Mrs. Suzanne Hirrel, Dec 21
 Mrs. Gayla Brewer Taylor, Dec 22
 Mr. Merle Gross, Dec 24
 Dr. Bobby Coats Jr., Dec 24
 Dr. Dennis Gardisser, Dec 24
 Ms. Avonne Petty, Dec 24

Mrs. Cheryl Maxwell, Dec 24
 Ms. Audrey Hairston, Dec 24
 Mrs. Margaret Goodson, Dec 26
 Mr. Mitch Crow, Dec 26
 Ms. Liz McKay, Dec 26
 Mrs. Judy Bloesch, Dec 27
 Mrs. Sandra Smith, Dec 27
 Mr. Jeff Welch, Dec 28
 Ms. Denise Roulhac, Dec 28
 Dr. Judy Robison, Dec 29
 Ms. Saundria Ash, Dec 29
 Mr. Tom Leslie, Dec 29
 Dr. Betty Brannan, Dec 29
 Mr. Larry Jernigan, Dec 30

Scholarship Donations

The following gifts were recently received to support professional development opportunities for faculty and staff of the Cooperative Extension Service. These gifts will be used to support professional development opportunities for faculty and staff of the Cooperative Extension Service.

James Aikman

In memory of Jim Kimbrough

Lanny Ashlock

In memory of Howard Young

In honor of Inez Young

Linda Buckley-Chappell

In memory of Jane Thacker

Mary Ruth Fallin

In memory of Dr. Beverly McNew

James Peachey

In memory of Orva Dee Peachey

Portia Short

In memory of Howard Young

In memory of Gladys Lindsey

Honorary or memorial donations should be forwarded to the Development Office, ATTN: Brian Helms, Cooperative Extension Service, 2301 South University Ave., Little Rock, AR 72204. If joint recognition is desired, please indicate. To ensure that proper notification is sent, please also include in whose honor or memory the gift is made and the mailing address of the person to receive the notification. 

Yes, I will subscribe to the *Extension Cord*.

| | Cost | Amount Enclosed |
|----------------|---------|-----------------|
| Extension Cord | \$18.00 | _____ |

Please make check payable to **UA CES** and mail to Martha Thorpe, Communications Department, 2301 South University Avenue, Little Rock, AR 72204-4940.

NOTE: Please do not combine payment for an Extension Cord subscription and a scholarship donation in one check. Payment for the **Extension Cord** should be made to **UA CES**. Payment for **scholarship donations** should be made to the **UA FOUNDATION**. If you include payment for an Extension Cord subscription in a check made payable to the UA Foundation, the entire amount will go to the UA Foundation.

Yes, I want to support the fundraising initiative in support of the Cooperative Extension Service Retiree Scholarship.

Enclosed is my gift of \$_____. My gift is in honor / in memory of _____.

Name/Address for notification of honorary and memorial gifts:

Please make check payable to the **UA Foundation** and mail to Brian Helms, Development Office, 2301 South University Avenue, Little Rock AR 72204-4940.

Wanda Barker Passes

Wanda Barker, 76, of Tuckerman died October 30, 2019. Wanda had 39 years of service with the Cooperative Extension Service. Wanda began her career in 1978 and continued working until her retirement in April 2018. She was the Administrative Office Supervisor in Jackson County at retirement. 