



Keeping you connected

xtension cord

October 2022

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

No. 10

Linda Chappell: a heart for service

Linda Chappell spent 26 years proudly working as an Extension agent. She has lived in southwest Missouri since retiring in 2015 and continues to have a heart for serving others.

“I’m from Missouri, but I am very proud that I worked in Arkansas,” Chappell said.

Chappell was raised on a small dairy and poultry farm near Branson, Missouri. She attended the University of Arkansas. After receiving undergraduate and master’s degrees in Family and Consumer Sciences, Chappell was prepared to teach. Although her career took her outside the classroom, she continued to use her teaching skills as a 4-H extension agent.

“If I were to explain 4-H to someone that didn’t know, I would explain it as learn, do, teach,” Chappell said.

Throughout her career, she worked in several counties, but she said one thing remained consistent: the quality of the kids involved with 4-H, who were eager to learn. Chappell recalls that when she met someone who was unfamiliar with the Extension work, they would still recognize 4-H.

“You know that you make things better, but it’s so hard to quantify it because as an agent, you do so many things,” she said.

Chappell believes that the learning experiences and service opportunities that 4-H offers can strongly impact a family. Her own two daughters were involved in 4-H



Linda Chappell enjoys spending time with her many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

and often traveled with her to help her with events. Both daughters have been recognized with service awards in their respective careers, which is something Chappell credits to their time as 4-H members.

When reflecting on her career, Chappell remembers the needs of the communities she served.

“You could never do enough,” she said, “and I think that’s why I still do stuff now, because there is still such a need.”

Chappell helps low-income families through a volunteer tax program at the beginning of every year and is also a substitute teacher. During the pandemic, she spent an entire semester as a second-grade substitute.

In addition to these opportunities, Chappell enjoys spending time on Table Rock Lake. She has 13 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren who often visit her at the lake. Her time with extension has given her friends around the state and many opportunities to invest in others. ■

THE INSIDE STORIES

CES offers 2022 Arkansas Ballot Issue Voter Guide
2023 summer internship program open for applicants
CES's online beekeeping course now available


Message from the director
Retirees granted emeritus status
Scholarship donations & birthdays


2


CES offers 2022 Arkansas Ballot Issue Voter Guide


In November's upcoming General Election, Arkansas voters will have four proposed constitutional amendments on the ballot. To help Arkansans understand these proposed changes to the state constitution, the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture's Public Policy Center has published an online guide to Arkansas' statewide ballot issues.

The [Ballot Issue Voter Guide](#) is a neutral, research-based resource that shows how proposals will appear on the ballot, answers basic questions about each issue, and includes reasons why people may support or oppose each proposed amendment.

 **Issue 1:** A constitutional amendment to allow the General Assembly to convene in extraordinary session

 **Issue 2:** A constitutional amendment that would increase the percentage of votes required to pass most statewide ballot issues

 **Issue 3:** A constitutional amendment that would add language to the Arkansas Constitution which “prohibits state and local governments from burdening a person’s practice of religion unless there’s a compelling reason to do so,” according to the 2022 Arkansas Ballot Issue Voter Guide

 **Issue 4:** The Arkansas Adult Use Cannabis Amendment, which asks voters to change the Arkansas Constitution to allow and regulate cannabis, also referred to as marijuana, for non-medical purposes



The 2022 Arkansas Ballot Issue Voter Guide was released Sept. 12 and is available at uaex.uada.edu/ballot. Printed copies became available in county extension offices statewide in early October.

The voter guide is reviewed by University of Arkansas School of Law professors, subject experts, and both supporters and opponents of the issues. Kristin Higgins, extension program associate for the Public Policy Center, said the guide provides voters with important context about the issues – context that is opinion-free.

“The ultimate goal is to increase voter participation and to help people feel confident in their vote,” Higgins said. “The voter guide is a tool to bypass misinformation and have a neutral presentation of the facts.” ■

2023 summer internship program open for applicants

The 2023 Internship program is now accepting applications. It is open to all incoming junior and seniors in college who want to learn more about becoming a county extension agent and are seeking a degree in agriculture or family and consumer science related fields.

This 10-week paid program offers interns the opportunity to:

- Gain valuable hands-on professional experience
- Work on special projects that directly impact communities
- Experience a full professional working environment that is a positive space for mistakes, growth and learning
- Network with other professionals
- Understand extension as a career

Please share this opportunity with your friends and family! Students may apply at <https://uada.edu/jobs/>

Cooperative Extension Service's online beekeeping course now available

As backyard vegetable gardens and chicken coops become more popular, so does another element of modern homesteading: beekeeping. For people interested in learning about the practice or brushing up on their skills, CES's new online beekeeping course provides information about the tools, costs and safety precautions involved.

The free Complete Beekeeping Short Course is available at uaex.uada.edu/bee-class and on the [CES YouTube page](#). Jon Zawislak, extension apiculture specialist for the UADA and Eastern Apicultural Society-certified Master Beekeeper, teaches the course, which is divided into multiple topics. The series covers the structure and function of each component of a modern bee hive, basic tools and equipment needed and information about safe practices and protective clothing. Zawislak also covers basic honey bee biology and behavior, honey production and harvesting and honey bee health, including how to recognize and treat honey bee diseases, parasites and hive pests.

“I wanted this course to be available online to anyone, at no cost, to provide people with a solid foundation of knowledge for keeping honey bees,” Zawislak said. “It will benefit beginners before they begin and can be a good refresher course for experienced beekeepers, who may have never taken a formal class.



Jon Zawislak, extension apiculture specialist, inspects a section of a bee hive.

“Anyone who has ever considered keeping bees could benefit from watching this series,” he said. “The industry continues to change, so even experienced beekeepers can tune in to gain a deeper insight into what they are already doing. Once people realize how amazing honey bees really are, they may not be able to resist trying beekeeping.” For more information, visit the [UADA beekeeping page](#). ■

Message from the director



Dr. Bob Scott

This month I've been traveling across the state participating in the Regional Retiree Meetings. We've held meetings in Jonesboro, Hope, Batesville, and Fayetteville. Little Rock is our last one. These have been a great way to get out in the state, meet our retirees, and find out what's important to them as retirees and stakeholders. I really hope that you had a chance to attend; they have honestly felt a little like a family reunion. I am even starting to run into some folks that remember me as a brand new, rookie weed scientist, and (not sure why) but they are shaking their heads at me being Director now. I tell them I am as surprised as they are. These have been great events, and I continue to be moved by our former employees' support of current Extension employees and our programs. Thank you all so much for your scholarship donations, and the many other ways you help us – you have no idea what this aspect of being director has meant to me.

I've also used these opportunities, and really any excuse for travel, to visit many of the county offices. Even though I've probably been to every county office in the Delta District, it has not been as Director. In just one day this month, I stopped by four offices. In another day, I made it to three more, plus a 4-H awards banquet in Franklin County. At the banquet, one 4-H member and I remembered each other from

this year's State O-Rama. Does this mean I am not new anymore? I have thoroughly enjoyed talking to our employees, listening to their concerns, and learning what we can do to make their careers with Extension better. I appreciate our folks' willingness to talk openly with me about their issues. I have seen so many things in these counties that we can be proud of, as well as learned about areas where we can do some work to improve things.

We are still in the interview process for several Extension faculty positions across the Division of Ag and look forward to working with the new faculty who will be hired. Interviews for the Assistant Vice President – 4-H and Youth Development are underway. They should be finished by the end of the month. I hope to have the new Assistant VP hired by the beginning of 2023. Following that we will begin our search for an Assistant Vice President – Family and Consumer Science, at which point I hope to have a management team in place for a while!

We have started accepting applications for the 2023 class of Extension interns. This program was a great success in my mind last year, as a number of these 11 young people expressed a strong interest in joining Extension in some capacity once they graduate. These interns had an opportunity to visit with a group of Extension retirees last year, and I hope to repeat this in 2023. I thought it was a great addition to their “Extension” experience for the summer. ■

Retirees granted emeritus status

2020

Rick Cartwright

Senior Associate Vice President Emeritus for Agriculture – Extension and Director, Cooperative Extension Service

Robert E. Coats

Professor Emeritus – Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness

Mark R. Peterson

Professor Emeritus – Community and Economic Development

2022

Karen K. Ballard

Professor Emeritus – Program Evaluation

Berni F. Kurz

Extension Educator/Consumer Horticulture Specialist Emeritus

Gus M. Lorenz

Distinguished Professor Emeritus – Extension Entomology

Wayne P. Miller

Professor Emeritus – Community & Economic Development

Beth J. Phelps

District Director Emeritus – Ouachita District

Sharon Reynolds

District Director Emeritus – Ozark District

Martha Ray Sartor

Associate Vice President Emeritus – Family and Consumer Sciences & 4-H Youth Development

Phil M. Sims

County Extension Agent Emeritus – Staff Chair

Gene Woodall Passes

William Eugene "Gene" Woodall, age 101, of Little Rock, passed away on Sept. 6, 2022. Gene retired from Extension in 1985. He was serving as the extension cotton specialist at retirement. Funeral services were held Friday, Sept. 16th at Calvary Baptist Church in Little Rock.

Scholarship donations

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

Donna Graham

Brian Helms

John Payne

John Robinson

Carol Sanders

Tom Troxel

J.B. Williams

Sam Boyster

James & Ella Geisler

Ford Baldwin

Millie Henson

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 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. ■

November Birthdays

Max Franks - Nov. 1

Massie Silva - Nov. 3

Eric Grant - Nov. 3

Reba Hawkins - Nov. 3

Frances Story - Nov. 4

Joe Waldrum - Nov. 7

Sue Palsa - Nov. 9

Ursula Crow - Nov. 9

John Hopkins - Nov. 10

Russell Wilson - Nov. 10

Jerry McIntyre - Nov. 11

Nita Cooper - Nov. 11

Gerald Alexander - Nov. 12

Patsy Keller - Nov. 15

Kay Stokes - Nov. 15

Gloria G. Eubanks - Nov. 16

Eugenia Hockett - Nov. 18

Luther Roberts - Nov. 20

Anita Clark - Nov. 20

Joe Vestal - Nov. 22

Linda Bates - Nov. 22

John Philpot - Nov. 23

Brenda Hawkins - Nov. 24

Janice Jones - Nov. 24

Kathryn Fowler - Nov. 25

Jane Kriigel - Nov. 26

Rosemary Rodibaugh - Nov. 26

Vatra Stone Hibbs - Nov. 27

Ron Matlock - Nov. 27

Sharon Reynolds - Nov. 27

Louise McPherson - Nov. 28

James Barrentine - Nov. 28

Jim Frala - Nov. 30