

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

No. 7

July 2013

Retiree Spotlight

*Eugenia Hockett
Virlean Fisher*

Inside

*John W. Carter
Dies*

*Honorary and
Memorial Gifts*

*From the
Editorial Board*

August Birthdays

Life Is Rosy for Eugenia Hockett

Everything's coming up roses at Eugenia Hockett's house in Beebe.

In particular, her yard is full of the beauties, especially those of the Queen Elizabeth variety.

"I love working in the garden," she said. "I love to sit on my front porch and have my flowers all around me."

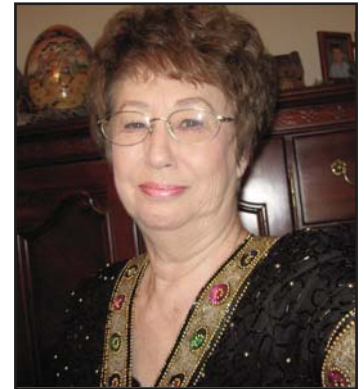
Often, she's joined on the porch by a little squirrel she's nicknamed "Nutty." He's been keeping her

company for about three years.

Hockett has been retired from Extension for a dozen years or so.

She worked in Extension for 28 years, beginning in 1973 as a home economist in Cleveland County. After working there for half her career, she made a lateral move to Monroe County in 1987 where she worked until retirement in 2001.

While in Monroe County, Hockett helped create clubs that met in homes, including ones



Eugenia Hockett

for 4-H'ers, EHC clubs, homemakers, quilt-makers and even one to promote literacy.

When Hockett saw the plight of at-risk youth, she set out to help. She educated

(Continued, page 3)

John W. Carter, Retired County Extension Agent - Staff Chair, Dies

John W. Carter, 81, of Paris died June 8 in Little Rock.

Carter was a Korean War veteran and a member of the Church of Christ and Kiwanis.

He was a county Extension agent for 34 years, serving in Lawrence, Stone and Logan counties.

Carter is survived by his wife of over 60 years, Betty C. Carter; daughters, Paula Carter Hartz of Fayetteville and Janice Vernon of

Dallas, Texas; sons, Stan Carter of Batesville and Doug Carter of Paris; and nine grandchildren. Stan Carter is Independence County staff chair.

Funeral services were held June 11 at the Church of Christ in Paris with burial in Highland Cemetery in Ozark. Memorials may be made to Church of Christ, 406 E. Short Mountain Street, Paris, Ark. 72855, or Logan County Library, 100 E. Academy Street, Paris, Ark. 72855. — Laura Goforth



DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE
RESEARCH & EXTENSION

University of Arkansas System

Helping Children Was Virlean Fisher's Vocation

Virlean Fisher's whole life has been dedicated to children, even during the 16 years she worked at Extension in McGehee.

Fisher had raised her seven children who were all in college when she heard about 4-H and realized 4-H could be a positive experience for young people.

She took a position as 4-H program assistant in 1985, and, as she put it, "Did the best I could to help kids fulfill their dreams."

Fisher worked in the McGehee schools before coming to Extension. As part of her new job, she was back in the schools teaching students about 4-H and passing on lessons that she had learned from her "two wonderful grandmothers."

The students responded to the structure of attending meetings, doing worthwhile projects and dreaming big. Other adults stepped in as volunteer leaders, and pretty soon 4-H was making a huge impact in the community.

Fisher is proud of her many students, but she especially recalled a boy who came from a family where nobody had ever graduated from high school. He not only was elected state 4-H president in the late 1980s, he also graduated high school, finished college and then went on to earn a doctorate. He was inducted into the 4-H Hall of Fame in 1991.

Fisher is particularly pleased that the students were able to find and earn scholarships through 4-H and that they learned they could go places and do big things.

Fisher, grandmother to 14 and great-grandmother to four, said she didn't want to retire in 2001, but her health forced the issue. She had knee replacement surgery, then surgeries on both shoulders. She and her husband, Garland, had also started raising a grandson who was born a preemie

and needed extra help. He was fed through a tube for the first three years of his life.

That grandson graduated from high school in May and will attend college this fall.

What will Fisher do now that her house is completely free of children?

"I'm thinking I'll become a foster grandparent," she said.

To reconnect with Virlean Fisher, contact her at P. O. Box 396, McGehee, Ark. 71654, (870) 866-7992.

– Shannon Magsam

Honorary and Memorial Gifts

The following honorary and memorial gifts were received to support professional development opportunities for faculty and staff of the Cooperative Extension Service. This list covers honorary and memorial gifts deposited June 1 – June 30, 2013.

■ Cooperative Extension Service Retiree Scholarship

In memory of LaVerne Feaster

Fann Woodward

Mike and Louise Wright

Lott Rolfe III

Randel Price

In honor of Carol Sanders

Fann Woodward

In honor of Fann Woodward

Gene Woodall

Honorary or memorial donations may be forwarded to the Development Office, Cooperative Extension Service, 2301 South University Avenue, Little Rock, Ark. 72204. 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.

– Elizabeth Childs

From the Editorial Board

Earl Wilson and Gene Lowery were visiting the other day and their conversation turned to personal safety.

One of the greatest dangers we have as we age is the fall that breaks a bone or joint. The fall is even worse if you cannot get help right away.

We've all seen TV ads probably where a woman falls and is rescued because she has a portable device she uses to summon help.

Seems both Earl and Gene have had different experiences with the technology. Earl was fishing one day when an operator called him on his device to see if he was okay. He inadvertently hit the call button and got a response, which surprised him.

Gene has had more than one fall and has relied satisfactorily on the device.

Not all members of the board have such a device, but several have cell phones they carry with them wherever they go, enabling them to call for help if it's needed.

Some retirees have settled in a retirement home where a fall would be noticed. Others live alone where they have no similar support.

Whether you have an emergency device, a cell phone, a loved one or live in a retirement center, the board hopes you avoid falls, but since none of us can guarantee a fall-free life, we hope you'll take steps necessary to be safe and healthy as you enjoy your retirement.

Your editorial board

Editorial Board Members

Fann Woodward

Mike Wright	Lorraine Hupp
Stan Chapman	Lott Rolfe, III
Earl Wilson	Gene Woodall
Bob Reynolds, Editor	

August Birthdays

Raymond Duncan, Aug. 1	Estella Hayes, Aug. 20
Billy Moore, Aug. 1	Wanda O'Neal, Aug. 20
Berline Wright, Aug. 1	James Ragland, Aug. 20
Betty Poe Holman, Aug. 4	Claudia Corbin, Aug. 21
Louise Burns, Aug. 5	Lorraine Hupp, Aug. 21
Ronald Beaty, Aug. 9	Barbara Simmons, Aug. 21
Delbert Taylor, Aug. 11	Robert Davis, Aug. 22
Gene Lowrey, Aug. 14	Earlton Sanders Jr., Aug. 23
Rosa Davis, Aug. 15	Betty Y. Thomas, Aug. 23
Beverly Fountain, Aug. 15	Sharran McCullar, Aug. 24
Mark Brawner, Aug. 17	Charles Whitaker, Aug. 24
Barbara Holt, Aug. 17	Terry Davis, Aug. 25
Jeannette Pollard, Aug. 18	Martha Albright, Aug. 26
Gail Clark, Aug. 19	Frank Plafcan, Aug. 28
Carolyn Grimes, Aug. 19	Lott Rolfe III, Aug. 29
Laura Luther, Aug. 19	John Langston, Aug. 30
Gloria Pickett, Aug. 19	

Hockett (Cont.)

herself on writing a grant and won a \$98,828 grant through the local TEA Coalition to start a program in the school system that involved anatomically correct girl/boy babies with computer chips. The goal was to reduce teenage pregnancy, so as part of a class, students took the babies home and had to take care of them when they cried to be changed, rocked or fed.

Before Hockett retired, computers were being introduced at Extension, but she left before she really got the hang of it. After her husband passed away in 2010, she taught herself to use one and is now connected to, well, anywhere. She even joined Facebook and enjoys keeping up with former Extension contacts.

To reconnect with Eugenia Hockett, contact her at ehockett1@hotmail.com, Beebe, Ark. 72012-3802, (501) 882-7165.

– Shannon Magsam



Cooperative Extension Service
2301 South University Avenue
Little Rock, AR 72204-4940

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

	Cost	Amount Enclosed
<i>Extension Cord</i>	\$12.00	_____

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

Yes, I want to support the *Advance 25K: Continuing a Legacy* fundraising initiative in support of the Cooperative Extension Service Retiree Scholarship.

Enclosed is my gift of \$20.12 Other \$ _____

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 Martha Thorpe, Communications Dept., 2301 South University Avenue, Little Rock, AR 72204-4940.