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

No. 3

Mississippi County agent's home sustains damage from Feb. 24 storm



Mississippi County Extension agent Shawn Lancaster's home damaged and shop destroyed by a tornado Feb. 24, 2018.

Shawn Lancaster, Mississippi County extension agent, saw heavy damage to his home at Keiser as an EF-1 twister swept the county on Saturday, Feb. 24.

Lancaster rode out the twister storm in his home – fortunately, “my family was away at a ball game” in Melbourne.

Lancaster said “the only warning was the cat running around like crazy. I got up to check on her and that’s when


the windows starting busting and the lights went out.

“The pressure as so tremendous, I staggered trying to get to the safe room,” he said, adding the cat survived, too.

The tornado “blew all the back windows out and I have a lot of water damage on the inside,” he said. “The shop in the backyard was completely leveled.”

Chuck Wilson, director of the Northeast Research and Extension Center at Keiser, also reported twister

damage. He reported heavy damage to two residences on the property. Fortunately, both were vacant. One building was missing walls on two sides and both sustained heavy roof damage.

Joe Christian, a farmer in Craighead County, posted pictures of his wind-damaged grain bins on Twitter. 



Roof of this residence at Northeast Research and Extension Center at Keiser was severely damaged during a tornado Feb. 24, 2018.



Joe Christian of Craighead County posted this image of his storm-damaged grain bins on Feb, 24, 2018. An intense line of storms marched across the state spawning tornadoes and high winds. (Image courtesy Joe Christian.)

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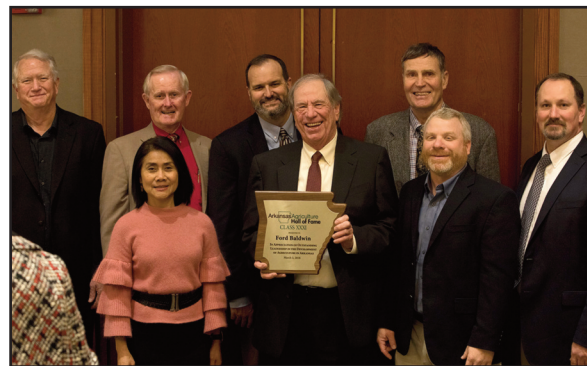
The Arkansas Agriculture Hall of Fame inducted six new members, two with connections to the Division of Agriculture, on March 2 at a luncheon at the Little Rock Embassy Suites Hotel.

Dr. Ford Baldwin, retired Extension weed scientist, now operates a consulting business, Practical Weed Consultants, while also writing regularly for the *Delta Farm Press*. His 43 years of assistance to farmers (27 with the Cooperative Extension Service and 16 as a consultant) have resulted in improved weed control and environmental stewardship. While herbicide-resistant weeds continue to challenge farmers, Baldwin is one of the country's top experts on combating this problem. A native of Fayetteville, Baldwin has earned recognition from countless industry groups, including being named Progressive Farmer's Man of the Year in Arkansas Agriculture in 1995, inducted into the Crop Professionals Hall of Fame in 1999 and earning the

Friend of the Farmer Award from Riceland Foods in 2006. Baldwin earned bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Arkansas, and a Ph.D. from Oklahoma State University.

Dr. John Clark, distinguished professor in the department of horticulture at the University of Arkansas and director of the Fruit Research Station in Clarksville, is one of the country's preeminent experts in the field of fruit crop genetics and breeding, particularly blackberries, grapes, nectarines and peaches. He has been recognized with many awards, including the National Association of Plant Breeders Impact Award, and served as president of the American Society for Horticultural Science. He has released 62 fruit cultivars, with more than 21 million plants sold. Dr. Clark's development of the

Hall of Fame (continued, page 4)



Hall of Fame inductee Ford Baldwin (center front) with current and former Division of Agriculture weed science faculty. Back, left to right: John Boyd, Ken Smith, Bob Scott, Dick Oliver, Jason Norsworthy. Front, Nilda Burgos and Tom Barber.



John Clark (second from left) with other 2018 Hall of Fame inductees. Left to right: Chantal McClung accepting the award on behalf of the family of the late Adam McClung, Clark, Ford Baldwin, Bill Bridgforth, Peggy Clark and Lew Brinkley.

April Birthdays

Ms. Yvonne B. Mizell, April 1
 Ms. Linda L. King, April 1
 Ms. Annette Coor, April 1
 Mr. Kenneth R. Williams, April 2
 Mrs. Nancy Winterbauer Olofson, April 3
 Mrs. Susan Sanders, April 4
 Ms. Janice Wadkins, April 5
 Mrs. Easter H. Tucker, April 5
 Ms. Ione B. Daniel, April 6

Mrs. Kathryn M. Lynch, April 6
 Mrs. Bonnie Wright, April 7
 Mrs. Colleen Owen, April 8
 Ms. Ann E. Gray, April 8
 Dr. Stan L. Chapman, April 9
 Mrs. Louise S. Walker, April 10
 Mr. John R. Payne, April 11
 Mr. Rich Maples, April 12
 Mr. Ed Erwin, April 12

Mrs. Mary Ruth Miner Fallin, April 17
 Mrs. Brenda H. Pratt, April 18
 Mrs. Becky L. Reynolds, April 19
 Ms. Mary J. Butler, April 21
 Ms. Tommie J. Wyatt, April 22
 Mr. Phil Tacker Jr., April 22
 Mr. Claude M. Bonner, April 25
 Mrs. Eleanor Walls, April 27
 Dr. Diane Jones, April 29

Deaths

The Editorial Board has learned of the passing of Randall Reynolds, 71, of Ashdown, on March 4. He was the husband of Becky Reynolds, retired family and consumer sciences agent.

Margaret Metta Price, 87, of Bartlett, Tennessee, passed away on Feb. 28. She was the widow of Randall Price, former director, Cooperative Extension Service.

Our thoughts and prayers are with their families. (e)

New retirees

The following individuals retired from Extension during the period Feb. 1-28, 2018. We wish them well in their future endeavors.

Joe Moore, county Extension agent – staff chair, Sharp County, retired on Feb. 28, 2018, after 33 years with the UA System Division of Agriculture Cooperative Extension Service.

Lance Kirkpatrick, county Extension agent- staff chair, Sebastian County, retired on Feb. 23, 2018, after 12 years with the UA System Division of Agriculture Cooperative Extension Service. Lance served in Logan and Sebastian counties.

Rosemary Rodibaugh, associate department head/professor - Family and Consumer Sciences, retired on Feb. 28, 2018, after 27 years with the UA System Division of Agriculture Cooperative Extension Service. (e)

Honorary and memorial donations

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 Feb. 1-28, 2018.

■ Cooperative Extension Service Retiree Scholarship

By Dorothy Hall

In memory of Dot Temple

By William Woodall

In memory of Marvin Wall

In memory of Wallace Cummings

Honorary or memorial donations may be forwarded to the Development Office, Cooperative Extension Service, 2301 South University Avenue, Little Rock, Arkansas, 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. (e)

To our Extension retirees

We hope this newsletter finds you in good health and coming into March “like a lion.”

Speaking of “vigorous” weather, late winter is the typical start of blustery, even more unpredictable Arkansas weather with a tornado damaging Keiser, Arkansas, and the home of Shawn Lancaster, one of our county agents. Fortunately, he and the family were fine, but their house and property were not. We have established a fund in the Credit Union to help the family with uninsured losses.

March 2 was a really good Friday, where we attended the Arkansas Hall of Fame – along with a record 700+ other souls – to honor the latest inductees. These included two of our own, Dr. John Clark, internationally known fruit breeder in Horticulture, and Dr. Ford Baldwin, internationally known weed scientist and extension specialist. Both provided excellent talks about their careers and families, and love of agriculture and our mission. It was a very fulfilling day. Congratulations again to both, and many thanks to Farm Bureau for organizing and the sponsors for supporting this event.

Please note that Dr. J.F. Meullenet has been appointed Interim Associate Vice President for Agriculture – Research and Director, Arkansas Agricultural Experiment Station – replacing Dr. Clarence Watson. Dr. Meullenet brings many years experience in research, teaching, service and leadership in the Division. His research background is in food science. We welcome him and wish him the best.

Also, Dr. Bob Scott has been hired as the Director for the Rice Research and Extension Center near Stuttgart. Dr. Scott has many years as Extension weed scientist with us, as well as serving as Director of the Lonoke and Newport Extension Centers the past few years. He starts his new job on April 1.

We are now preparing to do some renovation and upgrades to the State Office facility. After 21 years the main building needs some work. It is likely that the educational wing will be first, with carpet and wall coverings exceeding their rated life and showing it in places, along with possible upgrades to LED of our building's chronologically gifted lighting system. We will be repairing Coleman Creek behind the main building this summer, as erosion over the years has created a problem that must be fixed. We will try to keep you informed of improvements to this property, which remains one of the best Extension facilities in the nation.

(See Cartwright, page 4)



Meullenet named interim head of Agricultural Experiment Station



J.F. Meullenet

Jean-François Meullenet has been named interim director of the Arkansas Agricultural Experiment Station of the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture.

Mark Cochran, vice president - agriculture for the system and head of the Division of Agriculture, announced Meullenet's appointment to succeed Clarence Watson, who retired at year's end.

A native of France, Meullenet earned a master of science in Food Engineering from the National Superior School of Agronomy and Food Science in Nancy, and a Ph.D. in Food Science and Technology from the University of Georgia. He joined the Division of Agriculture as an assistant professor of Food Science in 1996.

Since 2006, Meullenet has held the Tyson Foods Endowed Distinguished Professorship in Sensory Science and is a 2013 graduate of LEAD21, a national leadership program. His appointment was effective Dec. 11, 2017. (e)

Hall of Fame (cont.) _____
thornless, large-fruited blackberries was just the first of many innovations in the blackberry industry. His most meaningful success might well be

the development of new genetics and production practices that will enable the availability of fresh blackberry fruit year-round. A native of Jackson, Miss., Dr. Clark earned undergraduate (1978) and master's (1980) degrees in horticulture from Mississippi State University. He earned a Ph.D. in plant science from the University of Arkansas in 1983. Upon earning his Ph.D., he was named resident director of the Fruit Research Station in Clarksville.

Also inducted were attorney Bill Bridgforth of Pine Bluff, retired agriculture educator Dr. Lew Brinkley of Jonesboro, timber executive Peggy Clark of Arkadelphia and the late Adam McClung of Vilonia, who served eight years as executive vice president of the Arkansas Cattlemen's Association.

"This is a wonderful class of inductees for the Arkansas Agriculture Hall of Fame," said Butch Calhoun of Des Arc, chairman of the Arkansas Agriculture Hall of Fame committee and former Arkansas Secretary of Agriculture. "The broad reach of these six individuals has been felt in every corner of Arkansas, from the Delta to the hills of western Arkansas.

"I have said this before and it bears repeating; agriculture is one of the great success stories of our state. We are pleased to bring recognition to these individuals who have impacted our state's largest industry in such a positive way." (e)



UP CLOSE — Buffalo Bob, the hissing cockroach, makes some new friends at the Arkansas Flower and Garden Show. The show was held March 2-5 at the Arkansas State Fair Grounds.

Cartwright (cont.)

I was very sad to learn of the passing forward of Becky Reynolds' husband, Randall, as well as Mrs. Margaret Price, the widow of Dr. Price, one of our former directors. Please keep their families in your thoughts.

I am also sad that Joe Moore, Lance Kirkpatrick and Rosemary Rodibaugh decided to move on and retire at this time. All leave a notable legacy in their respective careers, and we wish them all the best. On behalf of the Division and Cooperative Extension Service, I say a sincere thanks for their hard work and leadership over many years.

Until next time, I hope that all of you have a happy and healthy March.

- Rick Cartwright (e)

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