



Keeping you connected

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DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE
RESEARCH & EXTENSION
University of Arkansas System

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IT'S TIME FOR CHANGE

Dear Readers:

Since 2001, we have striven to keep you connected to your colleagues through the monthly *Extension Cord*. Now at age 15, we thought it was time to freshen up the newsletter, in looks and content.

In this edition, you'll notice more newsy content, items to keep you connected to what's going on in the organization in which you dedicated so many years, as well as information that you might find helpful in your post-Extension time.

Our job as the editorial board is to ensure that this outreach fits your needs, whether it's helping to reconnect with people, learning something new about the people and work of the University of Arkansas

System Division of Agriculture or about a resource or benefit that's available to you.

We want to hear from you. Please let us know how we can keep improving on the product we bring you each month.

Please send your emails to Laura Goforth at lgoforth@uaex.edu or Martha Thorpe, mthorpe@uaex.edu, and we will bring them up in a future editorial board meeting.

With our sincerest thanks,

Mike Wright, Stan Chapman, Lorraine Hupp, Lott Rolfe III, Earl Wilson, Donald Plunkett, Diane Jones, Tom Leslie, Darlene Millard 

Ford, Sartor step into new jobs

Victor Ford, director of the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture's Southwest Research and Extension Center, has been appointed interim associate director for Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Ford fills the position left by Rick Cartwright, who has assumed the duties of interim director of the Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service.

As interim, Ford will serve as state program leader for Extension in the agriculture and natural resources arena, working with department heads to ensure accurate, timely and relevant educational and applied research programs are provided to statewide constituents.

Ford began his career as extension forester at SWREC in the 1980s. After that, he worked 20 years in private industry. In 2008, Ford returned to Hope as SWREC director. The center conducts research in forestry, beef cattle, horticulture, plant pathology and row crops.



Sartor



Ford

Martha Ray Sartor, who has been serving as associate director - County Operations, moves into the position vacated when Anne Sortor retired. Sartor will now oversee both the 4-H Youth Development and the

(Continued, page 2)

THE INSIDE STORIES

Cyber scammers target seniors

Seniors are often targets of internet fraud and scams. Learn how you can protect yourself.

Back to school?

If you're 60 and older, you can go back to college with tuition waived.

Updates

Find out the latest news on your fellow retirees.

2

Cyber scammers target seniors

Identity theft and fraud can happen to a person of any age, but research shows that seniors are targeted more often.

Scammers often go after seniors because they typically have money saved up, own their own home, have good credit and may be less savvy about Internet safety and risks since they didn't grow up with technology. Scammers also count on them not reporting fraud and other scams.

Essentially, from home improvement scams to phone calls where the person on the other end of the line pretends to be with the IRS or other government agency, seniors are at higher risk for becoming victims. Awareness, a "clean" computer and protecting personal information are all pivotal in making sure seniors don't fall prey.

Awareness: Seniors shouldn't open or respond to emails, websites or social media messages that promise things like: "Free Gift" or "You're a winner." The "if it sounds too good to be true" adage applies.

Offers for discount prescription medications, messages that appear to be from government agencies and notices that "your account will be closed" should never be opened or acted upon. If there's concern that the email or message could be valid, it needs to be verified through independent phone calls.


More and more, hackers are setting up fake accounts using a person's actual Facebook picture, sending friend requests so they can take advantage of seniors. If a friend's account is hacked, a senior may accidentally accept a friend request then receive a private message on Facebook asking for money, for example.

A clean computer: It's important to keep the security software updated on your computer. Install and update anti-virus and anti-spyware security programs. These programs protect your information and can be



purchased at office supply stores. Also, make sure your wireless router requires a password.

Protecting your personal information: All Internet users should have different passwords for every online account and should make sure the passwords are unique.

Most organizations won't ask for personal information through email, so don't click or reply on those messages. If it seems legitimate, independently verify that it's OK through a phone call. A good rule of thumb is to not click on links or open attachments unless you know the sender. 


Get smart, get back to school

How many times during your pre-retirement life did you ever say, "I always wanted to take a course in ..."? If you're 60 and older and have at least a GED or are a high school graduate, now is the time to take advantage of the University of Arkansas System discount to take the course you've always wanted to take but never had the time. "Discount" is an understatement. Tuition is waived.

There are a few catches, though. For example, being admitted to class is based on available space. You'll have to fill out some paperwork, and you may have to take an admissions test. In some cases, you'll still have to shell out for an application fee, books and other materials.

The good news is this privilege isn't just for auditing courses. You may also enroll to complete a degree or seek a new degree.

If you are looking to apply to the U of A Campus, visit <https://admissions.uark.edu/apply/seniorcitizens.php>
In Little Rock, visit <http://ualr.edu/campuslife/ntsp/over-60/> or call the Office of Admissions at 501-569-3127.

Exempt from the 60-plus discount is eVersity. The tuition is \$165 per credit hour, with a three-credit-hour course running \$495. eVersity does not charge additional fees and there are no textbooks to buy. Course materials are embedded within the course. Check out eversity.uasys.edu. 

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 October 1-31, 2016.

Cooperative Extension Service Retiree Scholarship

In memory of Lloyd Westbrook: Lott Rolfe III

In memory of Dayton Thomason: Lott Rolfe III

In memory of Carreather Perry: Lott Rolfe III

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.

Updates

A **retiree group gathering** was held in November at the IHOP in Russellville with speakers Dr. Rick Cartwright and Ryan Cowell of TIAA.

The group, now under the direction of Bill Dodgen with assistance from Jerry Wooley and Lanny Ashlock, started as an informal group of Extension retirees from Northwest and North-Central Arkansas but has since expanded to include interested retirees from across the state. The group meets twice a year, usually in April and mid-to-

late October, to renew old friendships and hear about topics of concern to them such as medical, retirement, Division of Agriculture and Extension related concerns.

We will keep you informed as information about prospective meetings becomes available.

Helen Glass and her husband, Jake, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary with a reception August 27 in Magnolia. The couple was married on August 31, 1956, in Prescott and have four children. Helen was an administrative office supervisor in Columbia County.


Retiring from Extension from August through October were:

Tony Windham, Associate Vice President for Agriculture - Extension

Dianne Hardgrave, Livestock Market News Reporter, Animal Science 

Ford, Sartor *(Continued)*

Family and Consumer Science programs.

Sartor joined the Arkansas Extension Service in 2007 as associate director for the Delta District. In 1997, she was appointed district director in Mississippi, a position in which she served until 2005, first in Hattiesburg, then in Biloxi. Sartor joined Mississippi State's extension service in 1981 as a 4-H Youth agent, serving over the years as a home economist, family financial management specialist and area extension agent. 



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