

2020-2021 Project Book Summaries

Delta

- Craighead County—Black Oak/Lake City EHC—Christmas for Veterans—Despite a member's suffering a broken knee and a diagnosis of cancer, the Covid pandemic and the quarantine, the Black Oak/Lake City EHC was able to get past tough times and complete a project for the 2019-2020 year. The club made a Christmas card, an ornament, and a gift box filled with various toiletries, tissues, sock, and other things for the 3 veterans who reside in the Lakeside Nursing Center in Lake City. Also, the 5 veterans at Monette Manor in Monette received a card, an ornament, and a lap quilt. The lap quilts were made by member, Lisa Wagoner, and a club project chairperson, Viola Snow, gathered most of the items for the gift boxes. A total of 78 volunteer hours were reported with 5 members participating. The cost was \$184.42 with most items being donated.
- Craighead County—Pleasant Grove EHC—Helping Children Stay Warm—10 members participated in the project to help keep children warm during the winter months. The items were either purchased new or made by members. Mrs. Linda Graham, school psychologist/crisis coordinator for the Nettleton School District, was the coordinator for this project, providing information concerning schoolchildren who needed help. The gifts of 100 pairs of gloves, 70 scarves, 60 caps, and 30 pairs of socks were presented to Mrs. Graham during the December 2019 club meeting. She communicated to the club members the excitement of the children who received the gifts.
- Craighead County—West Mart EHC—Helping Neighbors Food Pantry—By taking on the Helping Neighbors Food Pantry of Jonesboro as the club's service project, West Mart members agreed to bring non-perishable food items to each of the monthly club meetings. Betty Gibson agreed to serve as chairperson for this project. Helping Neighbors is a non-profit organization that relies on donations from

churches, civic organizations, businesses and individuals. It is staffed and managed entirely by volunteers who contribute their time and efforts for the benefit of the community. Due to the Corona Virus, contributions were only made from July to March (2019-2020). Club members contributed 290 pounds of food valued at \$261 and donated \$150 in cash and gift cards totaling \$411 to the Helping Neighbors Food Pantry.

- Jefferson County—Heart-N-Hands EHC—Bingo Prizes for 3 Nursing Homes—Always concerned about the need of the elderly, Hear-N-Hands club members decided to collect Bingo prizes at each monthly meeting. They donated approximately 250 Bingo prizes to the Villages of Baptist Healthcare West, Trinity Village Medical Center, and Arkansas Convalescent Center. The activity directors of the nursing homes felt that the additional Bingo prize selection added excitement and encouraged socialization among the residents.
- Jefferson County—Jefferson County Council—Cot Sheets for UAMS Kids First Program—When the Jefferson County Council learned of the need for cot sheets for the UAMS Kids First Program, 2 workshops were held, attended by members of all 6 Jefferson County clubs. Jo Ann Carr, community service chairperson for Jefferson County, was in charge of the project. 45 small and 42 large cot sheets were made in the workshops and 28 were delivered in November and 59 in January. These were much appreciated by UAMS and the youngsters.
- Jefferson County—New Horizons EHC—Helping the Salvation Army—For quite some time, the New Horizons EHC has participated in Salvation Army activities, deciding this year to help with the emergency shelter. This program is a shelter and lodge and also included financial assistance, disaster, casework & visitation services, food & nutrition, transitional housing, and women's and youth ministries. The club lovingly donated toiletry items such as deodorant, washcloths, towels, shampoo, conditioner, soap, socks, gloves, money, and hats. Items were collected at each meeting and delivered to the Salvation Army at

Christmas time. All 20 members participated and contributed to the project. 2 young members, Sarah and Sophia Gwin, acted as chairpersons of the project.

- Jefferson County—Willing Workers of White Hall EHC—Caps for Arkansas Children’s Hospital—At the request of Arkansas Children’s Hospital, the Willing Workers of White Hall EHC made crocheted caps. The hospital needs an abundance of caps in various sizes to give to its patients. Members made 109 caps from baby size to adult size and delivered them to the hospital. A workshop was held to teach the loom method to members who were not familiar with it. The caps were greatly appreciated.
- Prairie County—Biscoe EHC—Sharing Our Blessings—The Biscoe EHC demonstrated kindness and caring to those who might need encouragement. Members brought and prepared LOVE boxes of useful items to give to chosen recipients. “In Memory” donations were given to families to commemorate their losses. Also, trained members volunteered to assist individuals in applying for Medicare Savings on premiums and prescription drugs. Recipients were so appreciative and many sent cards.
- Prairie County—Busy Hands EHC—Des Arc Food Pantry—Members participated each month by bringing non-perishable food items to the club meetings and took turns delivering them to the pantry in Des Arc. Club members donated 415 items in the 8 months that they met before stopping because of the pandemic. The pantry was having a hard time keeping food on the shelves and this was a very rewarding project of helping to feed families in need.
- Prairie County—Couponistas EHC—Random Acts of Kindness—The Couponistas decided to continue with their “Random Acts of Kindness” project. Club members felt blessed the first half of the year to be able to surprise groups with Acts of Kindness. However, as the year progressed, it became more of a “how can we help those in need during this crisis”. The club members hope and pray that their small contributions have

helped make a few lives a little easier, and that they provided some much-needed encouragement during some very difficult times.

- Prairie County—Idlewild EHC—School Supplies for Hazen Schools—The Idlewild EHC decided to support the School Fair for Hazen School students (Hazen S.T.E.P.S UP, Inc) put on by the community. Banks, businesses, and clubs set up tables loaded with school supplies for the students. 6 members of the club were involved in the project and set up a table with supplies for students grades 1-12. More than 300 students attended the fair. The parents were thankful for the help they received.
- Prairie County—Oak Prairie EHC—Collecting Food for Prairie County Food Pantry—Many families in the county have been hit hard by the economic downturn because of the pandemic, so the club decided to help the Prairie County Food Pantry in Des Arc. The members brought canned goods and non-perishables to each meeting. The food was weighed, put into bags, and carried to Des Arc. They collected 90 pounds of food items and \$100 to buy Christmas turkeys. The recipients are always thankful.
- White County—El Paso EHC—Meeting the Needs—The El Paso EHC's project was to address the needs of the community during the pandemic. Face masks at that time were simply not available, except for medical personnel. The husband of one of the members worked at First Electric, and they were in desperate need of masks for their employees. Working individually, club members spent 3,750 hours making 750 cloth masks with materials already on hand. 200 of these masks went to employees of First Electric Cooperatives of Arkansas, 300 went to patients at Arkansas Children's Hospital, and the remaining 150 were given to friends and family. The club received \$1000 donation from First Electric and the club in turn donated \$1,290 to local food banks.
- White County—Floyd EHC—Baby Blankets for NICU of Baptist Hospital Little Rock—A nurse who lives in the Floyd Community works for the NICU for Baptist Hospital in Little Rock. She let the club know of the hospital's need for baby blankets for the NICU of her hospital. She was

very excited that the club would take this as a project. After finding the right material for the blankets, the club president taught members how to make “pillowcase sheets”. Several members sewed at home and others were able to get together. They made 100 blankets and 105 sheets and all items were made with no reimbursement. All were sent to the Baptist NICU by one very excited nurse.

- White County—Little Indian Creek EHC—Warm Hats for the Homeless—Mission Machine is an organization in the community that works with the homeless full time. The club members decided to help them help the homeless by making and donating toboggan-style hats for them to wear during the winter months. At the October 2019 club meeting, a workshop was held to teach members to either knit or crochet. The goal was to have enough hats to give to Mission Machine by the Christmas Party in December. By the end of the year, they received 31 hats and 16 more in February. A few of the hats were purchased and donated along with some gloves, scarves, and socks. Mission Machine was very appreciative of the efforts.
- White County—U-Neek EHC—Rag Wreath Workshop—The club hosted a rag wreath workshop and did lots of advertising by newspaper and Facebook. Participants were asked to register ahead so wreath rings could be purchased. They were asked to bring 2.5 yards of fabric or ribbon of their choice, so they could cut it into 1-by-7 inch strips and tied the pieces in random order to the wire wreath. No wreaths were finished, but those attending completed enough to understand what to do to finish the rest later. The 28 ladies who took part had a great time and met new people, some of whom were potential members.

Ouachita

- Cleveland County—Cleveland County Council—Census Presentation to Quorum Court—Members of the Cleveland County Council gave a well-received presentation to the county officers and quorum court members regarding the importance of 2020 Census, and the fact that it is the first census in which the form could be completed online. The

program included a PowerPoint presentation and graphics giving statistics and facts regarding the importance of completing the questionnaire. After the presentation, there was a question-and-answer session, and the EHC Council was interviewed by the editor of the Cleveland County Herald. Homemade cookies and candy were served to the members.

- Cleveland County—Friendship EHC—Pioneer Village Christmas Banners—The Friendship EHC decided that the Historic Pioneer Village located in Rison, the county seat of Cleveland County, needed more decoration for the Christmas Season. The club had old-world banners made and hung them around the Pioneer Village to bring attention to the buildings where the vendors and crafters are located. They really looked great and added a lot to the Christmas celebration. Club members decided banners would also look great and welcoming out on the street leading into Pioneer Village. They may continue the banner project next year in downtown Rison and around the Courthouse.
- Cleveland County—New Home EHC—Face Mask Magic—With the onset of the Corona Virus, New Home EHC members kept hearing there was a shortage of face masks. They were anxious to help by making masks and giving them to healthcare workers, the elderly, and family & friends. Several patterns were presented for masks for the general public and later there was a workshop held in the Woodlawn Community. The club had supplied more than 300 free masks. The club members will continue to sew & supply these masks to all who need them for as long as there is a need throughout this pandemic.
- Garland County—Garland County Council—Masking Our Community—The Garland County Council had no idea just what an impact it would have on the community when members started making masks in March 2020! They started in early March when the supply of commercial masks went down to zero. As soon as the locals found that EH were happy to share their mask supply, they received many calls for help. Almost 7,000 face masks were made and

- Garland County—All Things Home EHC—4-H Summer Craft Workshop—This is the second year for this project of a craft day for Garland County 4-H clubs. All Things Home members first held a planning session where the project leaders planned the 8 crafts/activities to be presented & determined which supplies would be needed. A meeting was also held to assemble kits for each craft. Individual members taught each class and all supplies were provided at no cost to the 4-H'ers. Children completed 8 craft items to take home and lunch was served by members of the club. The members loved this project and will continue it for the future.
- Garland County—Crazy Quilters EHC—Lake Hamilton High School Band Tote Bags—The Lake Hamilton high school “Powerband” was invited by the Queen of England to participate in the 2021 London New Year’s Day Parade and Festival. Fewer than 20 American high school bands have been invited to perform in the event and Lake Hamilton was the first from Arkansas. More than 250 students would be making the trip and fundraising was critical. The Crazy Quilters EHC decided to help by making tote bags for the band to sell. The band gathered and supplied fabric, and the club supplied the thread and webbing. 95 bags were made and sold for a total of \$950. This was a great opportunity for the club to be involved in a community service and gain awareness. Because of Covid-19, the band will be making the trip in 2022.
- Garland County—Fiber Therapy Group EHC—Fidget Sleeves for Hospice—A local Hospice group asked if the club could make some fidget sleeves for its hospice clients. Fidget sleeves help calm certain patients by keeping their active fingers busy. These are made from small scraps of yarn left over from other projects and can be made at little or no cost. A variety of items were put on the sleeves, including buttons, fringe, crocheted flowers, and pompoms. Most of these are quick to make and pretty much anything goes in making them. The members of the Fiber Therapy EHC love giving to the community and this is something they can do to help their friends at Hospice.

- Garland County—Lakeside EHC—Fidget Quilts for Dementia Patients—
At a monthly meeting, while talking about Alzheimers and dementia as a leader lesson, the Lakeside EHC members thought about making fidget blankets and quilts for patients to help calm them like children are often calmed by a favorite toy or blanket. They decided to make some of these small, lap-size quilts as a project and give to The Caring Place of Hot Springs, which offers day care for dementia patients. The members collected fabric, batting, fleece, buttons, zippers, ribbon, bells, keys, and other items needed to embellish these quilts to occupy fingers and minds. A club workshop was held to begin designing and sewing these quilts. 18 fidget quilts were completed and delivered to The Caring Place. Plans were to make more, but they were stalled by the Corona Virus. Members did make a few more at home and plan to have another workshop post Covid.
- Garland County—Loyal Ladies EHC—Arkansas Veterans Support Services—The Loyal Ladies are honored to help support the Arkansas Veterans Support Services as they remodel a home that will be used by veterans who are transitioning into civilian life. In order to raise money to help with this, the members collected and delivered many items to be donated to a rummage sale to be held at the Hot Springs Convention Center. Unfortunately, Covid-19 arrived and they had to stop work on this project. However, in June 2020, volunteer workers returned in force and the Loyal Ladies were there to provide drinks, snacks, and masks they made. They also presented them with a check to help with expenses. The club members are still working on this project for a yard sale.
- Garland County—Paper Dolls EHC—Making Mini Albums—The Paper Dolls EHC was formed primarily for those who own cutting machines and other equipment needed for making albums, cards, and scrapbooks. However, there are many people who were interested in making these things but did not have all the expensive equipment. Paper Dolls showcased their skills while showing others how fun and

easy it is to create mini-albums, which were fun and easy to make without all the equipment. Those attending had fun creating their own one-of-a-kind albums, and the members had fun sharing their craft.

- Hot Spring County—Hot Spring County Council—Cot Sheets—Mary Reeves, the Hot Spring County Council, was approached by the First Step CADS to ask if this group could make cot sheets for them. The CADC supplied the materials, and the Council would furnish the labor. 15 members worked on this project, making approximately 124 cot sheets in short order. Some members cut fabric and elastic, while others sewed straight seam and put on finishing touches. These sheets would have cost the CADC \$17 each, saving them \$2,108.
- Hot Spring County—Gifford EHC—Adult Bibs for Seniors—The Gifford EHC saw a need for Bibs for Seniors because of the need of these by some family members. They found that several Senior Centers were in need of these for their patients. The members contacted the Senior Centers, and they were more than happy that the club was willing to provide these to them. The seniors at the Centers are happy that they have something to keep them from soiling their clothing as they eat and the Senior Centers are very thankful for this service.
- Pike County—Pike County Council—Needs Packets for Seniors—The Pike County Council headed up a project to make and provide “needs packets” for the nursing homes in Pike County. The plan was for each club to provide certain items to be put in the packet and the clubs would meet for the April Council meeting and put these together. However, Covid hit and they were not able to meet. Items had already been collected, so the Pisgah and East Delight clubs put their items together and delivered to the Murfreesboro Nursing Home and the Glenwood EHC presented their packets to the Glenwood Nursing Home. The group donated 45 packets, which included Kleenex, hand lotion, shampoo, conditioner, toothbrushes, toothpaste, hand sanitizer, cloth mask, comb or brush, and bars of soap.

- Pike County—East Delight EHC—Painting the Town—The East Delight EHC headed by Ginny Evans, President, continued to be disturbed by the shabby look of Antioch Street, the main street in Delight. Badly painted, empty storefronts presented a very unwelcome look to the pleasant little town. The members vowed to revitalize the main street in keeping with the many community events taking place throughout the year. They painted the windows of the empty buildings reflecting events and memories of the town. They enlisted other to help to “dress up our community”. The combined efforts of this club, Pisgah EHC (which annually decorates the flower pots in front of businesses throughout town), the Rural Community Alliance and City of Delight employees garnered profound results and helped accent this lovely rural community. It satisfied the club members’ desire for a cheery atmosphere to welcome the many tourists passing through on their way to the Crater of Diamonds State Park at Murfreesboro.
- Pike County—Pisgah EHC—Fidget Mats for Seniors—It was made known to the club that the Murfreesboro Nursing Home was in need of help for its senior residents who suffer from dementia. The members decided on place mats, which were the ideal size to lay on a table and “fidget” with. The members came together and began their creative work of putting decorations on the mats. The members completed 32 bright and colorful mats with materials that were donated. Due to Covid-19, they were unable to deliver the mats in person while visiting with residents, so one of the members delivered them all to the Nursing Home. There were very grateful for the welcome diversions for the residents during a time when they could not see family or friends.
- Pulaski County—Sylvan Hills EHC—Mask Warriors Project—When the first Covid-19 case was admitted to Baptist Hospital in North Little Rock, the club members started making cloth masks that could be worn over the N-95 masks to prolong their usage. They enlisted help from Extension Homemakers clubs’ membership and the Journey Sunday School class at Second Baptist Church in Little Rock. The Mask Warriors

were born. The Mask Warriors made and donated 2,486 cloth masks by May 30,2020. These masks were given to the Arkansas Extension Homemakers Council, 2 nursing homes, 10 medical facilities, 4 homeless shelters, 4 churches, and the U.S. Navy for distribution, along with community members and friends. All this was done with donations. This community project provided protection for more than 2,400 people during the pandemic and at one point, they had made 1,000 of the 10,000masks made by EHC statewide.

- Saline County—Sardis EHC—Feeding the Hungry in Our Community— The Sardis “Little Free Pantry” or as we call it today, “The Blessing Box” was started and put into service in 2016 by the Sardis 4-H club. In 2018, the present Sardis EHC was formed and immediately decided to start helping residents with the Blessing Box. The 4-H club still helped along with several other Sardis Sardis residents who wanted to assist with this worthwhile community project. The Sardis EHC members brought food each month to the meetings and all during the month to make sure there was plenty for the needy. This project has not only provided an accessible and safe source of food for the hungry in the community, but also the members bonded together into an extended family and gained respect from the community.
- Scott County—Dutch Creek Valley EHC—Soup for Law Enforcement— In February 2020, Dutch Creek Valley EHC joined together with other Scott County EHC to honor local law enforcement by providing a meal for them consisting of soup, chili, and desserts. The local 4-H club was asked to provide cornbread for the meal. On February 28th, the EHC met at First Baptist Church of Waldron to divide up the food and deliver it to the Waldron Police Department and the Scott County Sherriff’s Department. The organizations invited to partake in this meal were Scott County Sherriff’s Department, the Waldron Police Department, the local Arkansas Forestry Law Enforcement officer, the Arkansas State Police officer, and the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission officers. The project chairperson estimated the cost at \$1,904.

- Scott County—Pleasant Hill EHC—Hats for Kids—In November 2019, Scott County FCS Agent challenged the Pleasant Hill EHC to crochet hats for preemies at Arkansas Children’s Hospital. The club members were glad to do this and later this was extended to larger sizes to accommodate children who visit the Scott County Health Unit. The crochet meetings were divided into 2 shifts, one at 2 pm and another at 4 pm to accommodate more people to crochet. By January 31, 2020, 151 hats and 1 blanket were delivered to benefit children.
- Scott County—Shutterbugs EHC—Pictures with Santa—Pictures with Santa was a project to benefit the Scott County Boys and Girls Club of the City of Waldron. Each year the city of Waldron sponsors an event in December featuring a Christmas Market at the Fairgrounds and the Christmas parade down Main Street in the evening. In the past, pictures with Santa were taken by the Fire Department that day. However, the Scott County Boys and Girls Club asked the city employees if the pictures could be a fundraiser for them. The president of the Shutterbugs EHC, who was also the wife of the Fire Chief and president of the Scott County Council, volunteered to take the pictures and volunteered the club to take on this project. After procuring a volunteer to be Santa Clause, there were 57 photos taken with Santa at a donation of \$5 from each participant. The donations went straight to the Boys and Girls Club.
- Sevier County—De Queen and Gillham EHC—Card Donation to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital—In October 2019, club members read about a project of sending used greeting cards to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital. These cards would be refurbished by the hospital and sold to raise money. After finding out more particulars for getting the cards to the right place, members of the 2 clubs were asked to bring old cards to the Sevier County Council’s Christmas meeting. The cards were sorted, separated, and boxed for mailing to the hospital. More than 1,000 cards were collected and mailed. The money will be used by St. Jude for research at the hospital.

Ozark

- Benton County—Centerton Connects EHC—H2O Food Pantry—The H2O Food Pantry in Centerton has served the community helping families in need for more than 15 years. It is located in the Living Waters United Methodist Church and the Centerton Connect EHC also meets in that church. The church is very grateful for the club's help. The club members donate food and hygiene items and also volunteer by helping with food distribution and have been able to give monetary support during the Covid-19 shutdown. The food bank is really thankful for the monetary donations as it helps them purchase food and staples from the Northwest Arkansas Food Bank. They are able to get food at better prices through the Food Bank, and therefore, their money goes further. The club plans to continue supporting H2O Pantry each year.
- Benton County—Evening Star EHC—Feeding the Hungry of Northwest Arkansas—Feeding the Hungry was chosen as this year's club project. The members wanted to help 2 pantries that were located close to the community—First Baptist Church and Nelsons Hardware. The club members then decided to include the Northwest Arkansas Food Bank. Several monetary donations were made to the food bank, totaling more than \$600. The 2 local pantries were helped by bringing non-perishables for their distribution to club meetings. Donations were also made to the Samaritan House, which helped with Thanksgiving dinner soup kitchen and to the Central Park Elementary Snack Pack program during the months school was in session. All members participated and received much satisfaction from being able to help.
- Benton County—Highfill EHC—Stocking the Food Pantry—This project was chosen because there is always a food insecurity problem in the area and now even more so. The Little Pantry in Gentry was always in need of non-perishable food and toiletries. Each month members would bring items to the club meeting, but when the pandemic started, each member delivered their items to the pantry. It was very rewarding to see

the little pantry stocked with food items when members would go there to deliver. The clubs' 10 members were proud to participate.

- Benton County—Liberty Bell EHC—Vets in Waters Nursing Home—Instead of mailing Christmas cards to the Walter Reed Hospital, the members decided to remember veterans closer to home. They contacted the Veterans Administration Home in Fayetteville and learned there were 83 residents. The club members assembled empty Altoids tin cans, covered them with decorations, filled them with candies, and accompanied each with a Christmas card and delivered these to the Veterans Home in Fayetteville. The members delivered more cards to the Waters Nursing Facility in Rogers. The club received a very heart-warming thank-you card for helping to stuff their stockings and brighten their day.
- Benton County—New Meadowbrook EHC—Meals For Spay Arkansas Project—New Meadowbrook EHC of Garfield chose to provide Meals for volunteers of Spay Arkansas. The group of 10 members want to show their appreciation to the volunteers who worked on the Spay Arkansas project. This project certainly makes a difference for the pets and owners in the counties it serves. The monthly menu prepared by club members generally consisted of sandwiches, chips, and a homemade dessert. The chairperson delivered the meals to the workers at approximately 11 a.m. These simple meals were greatly appreciated by the workers as they saved the workers a lot of time.
- Carroll County—Busy Bees EHC—All about Bedding for Daycare Children—The Busy Bees EHC learned that the Green Forest Daycare needed bedding, the Head Start needed quilts for the youngsters during nap time, and the Learning Center needed sheets for their new mats for nap time. On February 20, 2020 a workshop was held to demonstrate how to make the different items and some were made that day. Because of Covid-19, the members were unable to meet again and the rest were made from home. The members made 29 quilts for Head Start and the daycare and 36 sheets for the Learning Center. The Centers'

personnel were grateful and the children loved them. The members are continuing to make more bedding at home.

- Carroll County—Carroll County Council—Christmas Cheer for Foster Children—The Busy Bees EHC hosted a duffle bag workshop for 3 clubs (Busy Bees, Cove EHC, and Domestic Divas) to make duffle bags for the C.A.L.L of Northwest Arkansas. This is a program for foster children as they often move from one home to another and have nothing to carry their clothes and belongings in. The 3 clubs wanted to make these duffle bags for each child to have for Christmas so 13 members joined together at a workshop and made 76 backpacks and duffle bags. Members also donated numerous packages of underwear, socks, toothbrush travel kits, head lice kits, and some cash. The council decided to make this an ongoing project as C.A.L.L is always in need of these supplies.
- Cleburne County—Good Springs EHC—Margie’s Haven House— Margie’s Haven House is a “safe house” in Cleburne County, where women and children can go to escape domestic violence. For the past 11 years, the Good Springs EHC has been supporting this worthy project and during this time has donated items valued at \$10, 370.97. Due to the Corona Virus, the donations were down this year but totaled \$892.56. The project chairperson, Linda Clouse, is in regular contact with the director of Margie’s Haven House, where is advised each month what to bring to next month’s club meeting. After each meeting, she delivers the items. The club plans to continue this project because of the help provided to women and children who are in need.
- Cleburne County—Seven Springs EHC—Help for the County 4-H Clubs—The club had a request from the 4-H council to help with its Childrens’ Fun Night. The club was asked to serve pizza and drinks, while the council provided game booths and a balloon man. The members reported having as much fun as the youngsters. Next, the club planned a program with lectures for the children on problems to avoid with computer use. Teachers and counselors from the college and

middle school were secured with plans to hold it on the local college campus. But, “BAM” Covid struck, and everything was put on hold.

Seven Springs EHC has decided to make the 4-H clubs its project for 2020-2021 and hopes to be able to do more next year.

- Conway County—Conway County Council—Farmers Market—The city of Morrilton was interested in having a Farmers Market in downtown Morrilton once a month from May through October. They needed volunteers to reserve booths and the club members wanted to help, so the Conway County Council voted to participate. Each of the 5 clubs in the county were assigned 1 month, and the Council took the 6th month. On the council’s month, volunteers supplied baked goods, crafts, plants, and anything else that might sell. Each club ended up making at least \$100, while helping the city and having fun.
- Conway County—Birdtown EHC—Birdtown Clothes Line—Birdtown EHC decided to expand its food pantry into a new community service helping with a huge need for clothing and household items. The club obtained a grant for funding and the journey began with that \$500. Members gather and hang new donations daily at the community center. The members are happy to say clothes, shoes, school supplies, and household items have been redistributed to needy families. The community joined in to supply donations from yard sales, Covid clean-outs in the spring, and back-to-school donations. The members are very pleased that their little chain started it all and now has grown into a community hub for excitement and good deeds reaching far beyond the club membership.
- Conway County—Hilltoppers EHC—Abundant Life Pregnancy Resource Center—Hilltoppers EHC worked this year with the Abundant Life Pregnancy Resource Center as its project. ALPRC is a non-profit organization serving Conway, Perry, and surrounding counties. It has a parenting education program called “Earn While You Learn”. It provided the opportunity to learn how to be a successful parent while earning “parent bucks” to purchase baby items and necessities with each

completed lesson. Each month, club members collected and delivered various items needed to supply the center's store, and they also gave toys for Christmas for those not able to provide them for their families. ALPRC was very grateful for the help.

- Conway County—Oppelo Twilite EHC—A Touch of Love, Brookridge Cove Rehab—Club members have recently began to understand how important it is to keep the residents of nursing homes engaged in as many projects as possible. This project was to help Brookridge Cove Rehab Center by donating money for recreational needs, leading Bible studies and song fests once a month, making and sending cards and giving each resident a new blanket. The club members managed to get in 52 volunteer hours before being cut short because of Covid-19 and could no longer visit.
- Conway County—Petit Jean EHC—Conway County Care Center—In a year of struggle from the Covid-19 pandemic, many families and individuals found themselves jobless and without the income to provide necessities. An immediate donation was sent to the Care Center from the club's treasury. A fun project called "Fill the Truck" followed. Donations of non-perishable food items were received by club members and placed in a pickup truck provided by a club member. The truck was filled in a period of hours by the club members and the community. Petit Jean EHC, assisted by community support, raised \$4,362.57 in money and non-perishable food donations. The project benefited the Conway County Care Center in the fight to stamp out hunger in the county.
- Crawford County—River Belles EHC—Making Masks for Our Community—In March 2020, a deadly pandemic put the world in a tailspin! Almost immediately, local hospitals and clinics put out the call for masks. They were going through their supply of masks very fast as they were using them, not only on their staff, but also their patients, as well. The River Belles EHC members answered the call and made more than 150 masks immediately. This was a very serious situation, but the

members had fun making them and kept on making them until they ran out of elastic and couldn't find any to order anywhere! 5 members logged in over 345 volunteer hours.

- Izard County—GID EHC—Community Helpers—The GID EHC loves its community and does the best to help them and make it a better place to live. Members raised funds by hosting paint party fundraisers. These funds then went to purchase food and snacks for the Melbourne School District's Backpack Program. This program sends food home to needy children on weekends and days that school is out to provide them with necessary nourishment. The club also bought supplies for the hospice program called Comfort Bags. These bags provide lotion, socks, gloves, lip balm, etc. to patients on hospice care. Also, some members made masks for some of the elderly in the community to help protect them during the pandemic. The club will continue to aid friends and neighbors as much as it can.
- Johnson County—Hagarville EHC—Adopt a Senior 2020—The Covid-19 pandemic has affected lots of people in many different ways. Among those people are high school seniors who will not get to participate in all the honors and special activities they have looked forward to as seniors. A Facebook page asked for local people and organizations to Adopt a Senior and help them celebrate and let them know they were not forgotten. The Hagarville EHC decided to participate by adopting 2 girls from the community who are twin sisters and graduating from Lamar High School. One of the sisters has received a 4-year scholarship to the University of the Ozarks at Clarksville, where she will major in biology. The other sister has been accepted into the nursing program at Arkansas Tech University at Russellville. The club members felt these girls deserved to be celebrated for their accomplishments, which was made more difficult due to the unexpected death of their father at the beginning of their junior year. The club presented them with baskets, each containing a monetary donation from the club, several other gift cards from local restaurants, numerous favorite snacks and gifts

donated by club members. The aim was to recognize their achievements, make them feel special, and bring a little joy by helping them celebrate.

- Johnson County—Johnson County Council—Diabetes Workshop—The Johnson County Council saw a need in the community for educating the public on how to manage diabetes. Several members or their family members had recently been diagnosed and did not know what they were facing in regards to diets and lifestyle. The council contacted the local hospital and with advice from the local health facilities, put together a workshop and program of helpful tips and diet suggestions. Committee members chose a speaker and went to work obtaining needed worksheets for the workshop. They named this project “So, You have Diabetes. Now What?” Those attending the workshop were very appreciative of the advice they were given and all said they learned a great deal.
- Johnson County—Oark EHC—Lunches for Law Enforcement—In mid-August, it was announced there would be a “Black Lives Matter” rally in Clarksville. Most other rallies throughout the U.S. had turned to violence, so Clarksville was reaching out for additional law-enforcement support. This could bring in upwards of 60 to 100 additional law-enforcement officers to ensure a calm and respectful rally. The club decided that providing sack lunches for the officers during the rally would be of the most benefit to them. Planning, collecting donations, shopping, preparing, and delivering yielded 100 fresh lunches for officers. The club members met that morning to prepare the lunch and the Clarksville Chief of Police and a retired Sheriff distributed the lunches to the officers supporting the rally. This project was enjoyed by workers and appreciated by the recipients and accomplished its aim.
- Johnson County—ReRuns EHC—Helping our Food Banks—Because there is a great deal of food insecurity in the Clarksville area, the club decided to help the state AEHC’s project of providing meals for the

needy. The club president, Denise Hickey, started helping at her church's food bank and the club donated \$100 to the food bank and \$100 to the Clarksville Housing Authority Food Bank. The club also passed the bottle around at each meeting to collect dimes for the state project.

- Madison County—Farmers and Charmers EHC—Angel Tree Bake Sale—The sale of homemade pumpkin rolls, cinnamon rolls, and dinner rolls garnered the Farmers and Charmers EHC \$499, which was used for the Countryside Assisted Living Home Angel Tree and the Paws and Claws Pet Shelter in Huntsville. This was the fourth year for this project. A Facebook page was created and all ordering was done online. The members donated the supplies and did the baking on the Monday before Thanksgiving. Everyone was assigned a task, completing the project by 8:30 pm.
- Newton County—Newton County Quilters EHC—Baby Quilts for Arkansas Children's Hospital—The club has made quilts for a number of charity raffles and auctions, including a local nursing home and the Girls and Boys Challenge of Arkansas and is currently donating lap quilts to local cancer patients. Last year, the members decided on making baby quilts to donate to the Arkansas Children's Hospital Northwest Springdale. They meet on Tuesday of every other week and work for the entire day. They made 33 quilt blankets with some of them being made at home. The quilts were donated in memory of Carol Leak, past president and 1 of the founders of the club.
- Washington County—Washington County Council—Face Masks for Covid-19—The Washington County Council decided to ask all county members who could to make cloth face masks to assist with the Covid-19 pandemic. The generous nature of the Washington County members rose to the challenge! Almost 800 masks per week were sewn and delivered over a 15-week period. This totaled 22,595 masks donated for medical and personal use. A drop-off box located at the Extension Office collected the masks. Martha Brown, county president,

coordinated the matching of need requests to donation numbers and she became the primary distributor. All 11 Washington County clubs took part in making the masks, and members who could not sew donated material or money for the purchase of much-needed supplies.

- Washington County—Goshen EHC—Scrub Caps for Arkansas Children's Hospital Northwest—The Goshen EHC was asked by the ACHNW in Springdale to make some scrub caps for the Pediatric Surgery. The club members had a wonderful time making 38 scrub caps for this worthy project. They met twice from 10 am to 3 pm, bringing materials with them. Some of the caps had to be taken home to finish because they ran out of elastic. Members report that they consider this project to be the most enjoyable of the many project they have worked on.
- Yell County—Spring Creek EHC—Food for the Food Bank—The club's plan for the project of 2020 was to deliver food to the Sharing and Caring Food Bank in Dardanelle. This plan had to be changed due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Since the Caring and Sharing Food Bank was closed for a time and there were so many people needing help in feeding their families, the club decided to donate the food that members collected to the Ranger Freewill Baptist Church Food Bank. The Ranger church is a rural church in the same area of the county where the club is located and they were able to stay open. Many of the club members were trying to stay at home due to the pandemic, but Peggy Mobley said she would pick up food items from members' homes and take it to the church. Pat Pyle met her at the church and helped unload the food. The chairperson, Sharon Pyle, reported there were 85 items estimated at \$150. Ranger Church was thankful for the donation, which helped provide food to several families.