ARKANSAS LAND AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION'S

THE ADVANCER

FARGO, ÁRKANSAS

FALL 2019

ARKANSAS LAND AND FARM DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
39TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND MEMBERSHIP MEETING



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Conference Highlights

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General Sessions



Awards & Recognitions



Workshops & Training



Youth Conference Highlights



The Honorable Judge Tezra O. Woods delivered an electrifying speech as she served as the keynote speaker for Youth Day. It is seldom if ever to witness over 170 high school students totally captivated by the challenging and motivating statements so fluently uttered by the Judge. To watch a masterful public speaker at work is fascinating. The Judge arrived early, checked out the surrounding, asked a

few questions about the

organization and did a little research. The Judge herself became fascinated by a publication, "He Built A School with Two Dollars and Eighty-five Cents", which is the amazing story of the accomplishments of Floyd Brown, a protege of Booker T. Washington, as he built the Fargo Agricultural School to provide secondary education and vocational training for African American youth prohibited from attending the public (White) schools. She exploited the many



allegories gleamed from the Floyd Brown experiences together with her own experiences to emphasize that you get from life what you put in it. Do not be stopped by obstacles, overcome them by applying yourself diligently in work, confidence and perseverance. Education is a key factor for overcoming poverty. Worth will win. "We realize that the value of a dollar is much



different than it was with Floyd Brown, but in no way does that diminish the greatness of his accomplishments, starting with \$2.85 and going on to build an impressive educational complex serving as a culture center for the whole community", said the Judge, "I encourage everyone of you to read this historical book, it should motivate you to great achievements.

Judge Woody went on in a somewhat modest way to briefly tell how she never allowed obstacles to deter

her path to becoming a Regional Judge with the United States Department of Agriculture, supervising Administrative judges in North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee. Her very successful career is well complimented by her family, her husband and children.

The Judge was impressed by the audience of over 170 high school students as she observed them during the famed ALCDC Youth Oratorical Competition, which occurred before her speech. She singled out one young lady for her savvy answers to questions and overall conduct. The Judge invited the young lady to the stage and gave her business card to the young lady encouraging her to contact her for letters of recommendation as she applies for college admission.

Enhancing Rural Youth through Education

This year's Youth Conference administered by LaShica Miller, Director, and Gerelisa Swanigan, Assistant Director, was packed with action. Action really got underway by the famed Business Development Oratorial Competition followed by the



very dynamic speaker described on preceding page. Awards were plentiful and well earned. College recruiters were on hand to exalt the merits, scholarships and admission requirements of

their respective institutions. A very generous lunch was well enjoyed and thoroughly devoured by all. The Conference was supported by four (4) local school districts Augusta, Brinkley, Clarendon and Marianna.



Clarendon High School

The real sponsor and

backbone of the youth conference is ALCDC's award winning youth program which offers work experience, career planning and development, character development among other counseling and

seminars the year around in recognition of youth as our future.

The conference as told by pictures follows.



Brinkley High School



The three Oratorical contestants were LaKayla Holmes, LaKeylon Stewart and Jackie Medford. Lakeylon Stewart spoken on "The Effects of Discrimination and Racial Division on Today's Youth and Communities", LaKayla Holmes and Jackie spoken on "The Business of Continuing Education Pre and Post Challenges". And the winner was *JACKIE MEDFORD*, a senior at Brinkley High School. The winner's gift of \$ 100 was presented by LaShica Miller.

Oratorical Contestant Winners from left to right:

Jackie Medford, LaKeylon Stewart, and LaKayla Holmes

Youth Day Awards and Recognitions



Awards for Oratorical Competition Judges for this year's YECAE and EXCEL conference were all received with thankful appreciation for their lifelong service to youth and ALCDC's Youth programs.

Certificate of Appreciation Recipients:

Presenter: LaShica Miller, Vice President Chief Financial Operations Officer



Wil Lucas
Philander Smith College



Percilla WadeUSDA, Farm Service Agency



Joycelynn Williams
EACC Community College



Derinda Applewhite USDA, NRCS



Alvin Peer USDA, NRCS



Kyunta McCoy *Phillips Community College*

Youth Service Award Recipients:



Annette FloydRetired Teacher
Brinkley High School

Emmanuel Vance Teacher Clarendon High School



Oratorical Competition Awards:

Presenter: LaShica Miller, Vice President Chief Financial Operations Officer



Jackie Medford

1st Place
Brinkley High School



LaKeylon Stewart

2nd Place

Clarendon High School



LaKayla Holmes 3rd Place Barton High School

Recognition for Outstanding Service Award:



Judge Tezra Woody receives recognition award presented by J.D. Davis, Vice President ALCDC, for her dedication, service, and commitment to create partnerships for the advancement of rural community economic development- yesterday, today and tomorrow.

Post High School Recruiting and Networking



Established for more than 20 years, the ALCDC Youth program is designed to assist youth in establishing professional careers in agriculture and related fields including economics, bio-systems, agricultural engineering, communications, dietetics, family sciences, human nutrition, rural community development, and entrepreneurship. Participants progress through four program phases:

- 1. Character Development
- 2. The Business of Farming
- 3. Professional Work Experience
- 4. Career Planning Development/Leadership Training

Agriculture, Health, and Home Business Educational Displays



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Main Conference Theme- "Creating Partnership for the Advancement of Rural Community Economic Development- Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow"

The Conference progressed in an orderly and as per agenda manner under the guidance of Ms. Linda Wilson, Member of the ALCD Board of Directors.

On Friday October 25th, Bob Nash the opening morning speaker, captured the conference participants attention speaking to the history of Arkansas Land and Farm Development Corporation. He noted that the organization work has impacted the lives of hundreds of Black landowners, farmers and other underserved segments of the rural farm population over its 39-year history through advocacy, training and technical assistance. The organization work has resulted in policy and law changes that made it possible for the land and family farm retention of those individuals.

Ms. Jacqueline Davis-Slay, Deputy Director, Office of Partnerships and Public Engagement (OPPE) was the Luncheon Speaker. The OPPE is of vital importance to ALCDC as a major aspect of ALCDC's services is highly dependent on *Outreach to Small Farms and Beginning Farmer/Rancher and youth outreach and integration into workforce* – a fundamental objective of OPPE. By having Ms. Davis-Slay address the essentials of the OPPE, conference attendees were fortunate to gain an understanding of its role toward rapidly expanding outreach to America's agricultural community and facilitate greater access to USDA programs as the OPPE serves as the lead agent for USDA partnership and outreach. Of particular interest to ALCDC is the emphasis on partnerships – A strategic goal of ALCDC.



Bob Nash, Former Asst. to Pres. Bill ClintonOpening Speaker



Jacqueline Davis-Slay, Deputy Director OPPE

Luncheon Speaker

Featured Workshops

Workshop I - The 2018 Farm Bill Resource Development Opportunities for Farmers and Rural Community Development.

Facilitator: Rubye Johnson

This workshop was structured to provide information on USDA resource opportunities for agriculture farm finance and programs, housing, rural community development, community facility grants/loans, business financing and infrastructure for rural communities. Other focus areas for this session will include programs that provide resources for local food supply through partnership and hemp farm business enterprises

Presenters: Rod Woods, USDA Farm Service Agency, County Executive Director, Jefferson County and Jessica Willis, USDA Farm Service Agency, Farm Loan Officer, Lonoke County.



Rod Woods, FSA Workshop I Presenter

Workshop II: The 2018 Farm Bill Program Resource Opportunities for Agriculture Conservation Economic Development.



Troyce BarnettWorkshop II Presenter

Facilitator: Alvin Peer, National Resources Conservation Service

The workshop provided information on USDA conservation resource opportunities for agriculture, family farmers and rural community economic development, micro-urban farm, heir property and hemp farm business enterprise, the dos and don'ts

Presenters: Troyce Barnett, Hemp Farm Business Enterprises and Mike Stage, Arkansas Department of Agriculture

Workshop III: New Market Development and Existing Market Penetration

Facilitator: J. D. Davis, Vice President, ALCDC

This workshop addressed new markets and how local growers can access them. These new markets for our producers include:

- Aquaculture based ecosystems for fish and vegetables; Recirculating Aquaculture systems; Fish farming.
- Powdered and dehydrated fruits and vegetables for the smoothies and other markets

The workshop also addressed the necessity of cooperatives for meeting market volume requirements. Presenters: Jody Hardin, Arkansas Hemp Genetics, LLC and Eric Smith, Ecological Food Systems, LLC.



J.D. Davis, ALCDC Workshop III Facilitator

Awards and Appreciations

ALCDC proudly recognized and showed appreciation for various areas including;

- ✓ Human Service Equity and Equality Award: Bob Nash, Judge Berlin Jones, Judge Olly Neal, and Freeman Mckindra
- ✓ Community Service Award: Mr. Burthel Thomas, Mr. David Adcock and Mr. James Stephenson.
- ✓ Community Participation Award: Mayor Larry Bryant, Rev. W. C. Tims, and Mr. and Mrs. Rickey and Mary Bones.
- ✓ Community Partnership Support Award: Rep. Rick Crawford, Sen. John Boozman and Rep. French Hill

Human Service Equity and Equality Award

Presenter: Dr. Calvin R. King Sr., President and CEO



Bob NashFormer Asst. to Pres. Clinton
Little Rock, AR



Judge Berlin Jones

Pine Bluff, AR



Judge Olly Neal
Little Rock, AR



Freeman Mckindra
Former Winthrop Rockefeller
Vice President

Community Service Award

Presenter: LaShica Miller, ALCDC Vice President Chief Financial Operations Officer



Al Collins
Accepts award posthumously
for David Adcock
Fargo, AR



Burthel Thomas
Farmer
Jefferson County



James Stephenson
Farmer
Dermott, AR

Community Participation Award

Presenter: Albert Jones, ALFDC Vice President



Larry Bryant Former Mayor Forrest City, AR



Rev. W.C. Tims
Retired
Magnolia, AR



Ricky and Mary Bones Light House Produce Fargo, AR

Community Partnership Support Award

Presenter: Dr. Calvin R. King Sr., President and CEO



AR. State Senator John Boozman



Anna Reckling
Accepts award on behalf of
Representative French Hill
2nd Congressional District



Representative Rick Crawford 1st Congressional District

Recognition for Outstanding Service

Jacqueline Davis-Slay, Deputy Director of the Office of Partnerships and Public Engagement, receives recognition for her outstanding service in support of public service and engagement for rural community economic development.



Jacqueline Davis-Slay
Deputy Director, OPPE

Networking

















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The Heir's Property Dilemma, "How Much Do I Own and What Is It Worth?"

"How Much Do I Own and What Is It Worth?" are typically the questions asked by absentee African Americans landowners when they are contacted about Heirs Property related to Farmland. While most of these absentee landowners have no intentions of every returning to the Farm Homestead, there is still an interest in the value of the land itself. Some Scholars attribute this disparity to the wealth gap between White Caucasians and African Americans. Many African Americans abandoned their Agrarian lifestyles during the Great Migration, moving North, East and West during the Industrial Revolution of manufacturing searching for a better way of living.

This afforded some African Americans a degree of wealth, as compared to family members attempting to make a living and survive on a fortyacre farm. The humiliation of White Supremacist in the South & United States is an issue seldomly mentioned. The ushering in of the Service Based Sector beamed a sparkle of hope for African Americans in achieving the American Dream but, was dwarfed as ceilings glass became prevalent. The current Knowledge Base has only widened the wealth gap with

African American being on the low end.

The above brief history scenario is often overlooked when the question of Heirs Property is elaborated. Why did the Heir sell his rights? No Money! Arkansas Land and Development Corporation (ALFDC) was founded at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff approaching forty years ago on Black Land Retention Heirs Property was (loss). early identified as one of the main corporates in Black Land Retention. A Legalist at collaboration recent of Academia, Community Based Organizations, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), State Agricultural Organization and Faith Based Groups attributed anywhere from 60 to 85 percent of African American land was lost due to Heirs' Property. This has the potential of being accurate when the injustices associated with Heirs Property and illegalities with Heirs Property are identified.

Broadly defined, Heirs Property is property passed down from one generation to another. The property is transferred to one heir, subdivided among many heirs or transferred to many heirs with undivided interest.

When a property owner dies without an estate plan, state determines law property succession. Typically, properties lacking estate plans are inherited by heirs with undivided interests thereby creating fractional interest also known tenancy in common. The Heirs Property issues that has elicited concerns African American farming community arises. The longterm effect of ineligibility for government programs and reduced access to private lenders accentuates land-loss and damages rural communities by limiting the resources owners need to maintain or develop their property.

Property ownership gives individuals an incentive to reinvest in their asset and increases the capacity to build over wealth time by leveraging existing assets. Heirs Property owners have less incentive to invest in their property because it is not soundly theirs. As a result, utilization and productivity undermined. Marketability of property is also reduced. Land value is depressed because property is not easily marketed or placed into conservation easement programs without clear title.

Potential buyers are likely deterred by the complications of Heir Property. Lease values are depressed for similar reasons. These lower values further reduce the ability of the Heir Property owner to improve the productivity of the land.

Finally, such beneficial property modifications as environmental enhancements, natural resources conservation program services, product diversification, irrigation and home repairs are neglected because the incentive to invest is absent for Heir Property

owners. Consequently, land potential is not maximized, which further accelerates the land-loss trend, underutilization of USDA Program services, and increased poverty along with declined or diminished communities.



Rose Drake born into Slavery,
Despite being impregnated at age 12, by her Slave Master (her son by the
Slave Master, John David Brison, was my Mother's
"Albert Jones" grandfather)
She became a Respected Nature Healer and Midwife, She heal many during a T. B. Epidemic
Photo, Courtesy of, "Sipping Tea for the Spirit" Amazon
Book

Christ is Born?

History.com Editors

https://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/christ-is-born

July 17, 2019

Although most Christians celebrate December 25 as the birthday of Jesus Christ, few in the first two Christian centuries claimed any knowledge of the exact day or year in which he was born. The oldest existing of record a Christmas celebration is found in a Roman almanac that tells of a Christ's Nativity festival led by the church of Rome in 336 A.D. The precise reason why Christmas came be celebrated on December 25 remains obscure, but most

researchers believe that Christmas originated as a Christian substitute for pagan celebrations of the winter solstice.

To early Christians (and to many Christians today), the most important holiday on the Christian calendar was Easter, which commemorates the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. However, as Christianity began to take hold in the Roman world, in the early fourth century, church leaders had to contend



with a popular Roman pagan holiday commemorating the "birthday of the unconquered sun" (natalis solis invicti)—the Roman name for the winter solstice.

Every winter, Romans honored the pagan god Saturn, the god of agriculture, with a festival that began on December 17 and usually ended on or around December 25 with a wintersolstice celebration in honor of the beginning of the new solar cycle. This festival was

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a time of merrymaking, and families and friends would exchange gifts. At the same time, Mithraism—worship of the ancient Persian god of light—was popular in the Roman army, and the cult held some of its most important rituals on the winter solstice.

After the Roman Emperor Constantine I converted to Christianity in 312 and sanctioned Christianity, church leaders made efforts to appropriate the wintersolstice holidays and thereby achieve a more seamless conversion to Christianity for the emperor's subjects. In rationalizing the celebration of Jesus' birthday in late

December, church leaders may have argued that since the world was allegedly created on the spring equinox (late March), so too would Jesus have been conceived by God on that date. The Virgin Mary, pregnant with the son of God, would hence have given birth to Jesus nine months later on the winter solstice.

From Rome, the Christ's Nativity celebration spread to other Christian churches to the west and east, and soon most Christians were celebrating Christ's birth on December 25. To the Roman celebration was later added other wintersolstice rituals observed by various pagan

groups, such as the lighting of the Yule log and decorations with evergreens by Germanic tribes. The word Christmas entered the English language originally as Christes maesse, meaning "Christ's mass" or "festival of Christ" in Old English. A popular medieval feast was that of St. Nicholas of Myra, a saint said to visit children with gifts and admonitions just before Christmas. This story evolved into the modern practice of leaving gifts for children said to be brought by "Santa Claus," a derivative of the Dutch name for St. Nicholas-Sinterklaas.

What is Micro-Urban Farm?

When asking the average "city dweller" or urban inhabitant the first thing that comes to mind when given the term "farm" is a setting of a small rural area where each household is a mile apart and where there are more tractors than cars. This is also thought of as a place where country living is the only way of life. As generations pass, more and more of our younger people find it difficult to envision living the rural life and aim to get as far away from farming as they can upon reaching adulthood. They want the bright lights, fast cars and even faster money. As we all eventually realize, the pasture

is not always greener on the other side. With an unstable economy and an even more unsteady job market, many Americans are often in search of ways to supplement their income just to make ends meet.

Many people living in lower income urban areas, especially the elderly, might not always have the means to always go to the grocery store and purchase fresh fruits and vegetables whether it is a mobility or monetary issue.

The micro urban farm project purpose is to offer horticultural farm opportunities as Small Micro Urban Farm Gardening

Business Enterprises along with addressing the specific needs for the limited resource and beginning farm population, including qualifying immigrants. The purpose is also designed with emphasis on access technical assistance to address conservation needs implementation of strategies to communicate the value of working conservation lands. The goal is to provide production agriculture opportunities in rural small towns and urban allows communities. It landowners living in both rural and urban areas, whether it .01 or 10 acres, the

of their land to support themselves and their communities. The prefix "micro" in the term microfarm, meaning small. Is very applicable. As stated before, you do not have to involve a lot of land to be considered a farm. With the popularity of high tunnel or "hoop houses" steady incline, landowners can develop their

opportunity to make the most very own farming operation right in their back yard. High tunnel houses allow producer to extend the regular plant production season. For example, tomato production typically ends in October, but with a high tunnel house, people producing are tomatoes up to December, making valuable a commodity.



Delta Cultural Center, Helena, AR One of ALCDC's participants in Urban Farm Project

USDA Helps Rural Businesses Make Energy Efficiency Improvements, Adopt Renewable **Energy Systems**

Investments will Help 640 Businesses Boost Their Bottom Line

WASHINGTON, Dec. **10, 2019** – Deputy Under Secretary for Rural Development Donald "DJ" LaVoy today announced that the U.S. Department Agriculture (USDA) investing \$237 million to help farmers, ag producers and rural-based businesses lower energy costs (PDF, 229 KB). The Department is providing 640 awards to applicants in all 50 states, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the Western Pacific. USDA is providing the funding through the Rural Energy for America Program (REAP).

"Businesses grow and create more jobs when their energy costs are lower," LaVoy said.

"Under the leadership President Trump Agriculture Secretary Perdue, USDA is committed to being a strong partner to rural businesses, because we know that when rural America thrives, all of America thrives."

Recipients can use REAP funding for energy audits and to install renewable energy systems such as biomass, geothermal, hydropower and solar. The funding can also be used to increase energy efficiency making by improvements heating, to ventilation and cooling systems; insulation; and lighting and refrigeration. For example:

In Alaska, four commercial fishing boat operators receive a total of \$74,153 to purchase equipment to reduce energy costs and keep their catch fresh. One of the operators, Jasper P. Allbrett, in Sitka, will receive a \$48,618 grant to upgrade the insulation of fish holds. pumps, the refrigeration unit's electrical system and the auxiliary generator on his boat. The REAP grants will save each operator about \$5,000 annually and will reduce fuel oil

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- consumption by an estimated 34 percent per year.
- Vicksburg Forest **Products** LLC in Vicksburg, Miss., will \$250,000 receive a grant upgrade to lighting and make improvements to a compressed air system, which will lower electrical consumption by an estimated 63 percent a year, enough to power 462 homes.
- Panek Farms. in Albion, N.Y., is receiving a \$185,470 grant to purchase and install a 320-kilowatt solar array. The project will save the farm \$32,675 each year and replace

enough demand to power 36 homes.

In April 2017, President Donald J. Trump established the Interagency Task Force on Agriculture and Rural **Prosperity** identify to legislative, regulatory and policy changes that could agriculture promote and prosperity in rural communities. In January 2018, Secretary Perdue presented the Task Force's findings to President Trump. These findings included 31 recommendations to align the federal government with state, local and tribal governments take advantage opportunities that exist in rural America. Supporting the rural workforce was a cornerstone recommendation of the task force.

To view the report in its

entirety, please view the Report to the President of the United States from the Task Force on Agriculture and Rural Prosperity (PDF, 5.4 MB). In addition, to view the categories of the recommendations, please view the Rural Prosperity infographic (PDF, 190 KB).

USDA Rural Development provides loans and grants to expand economic opportunities and create jobs in rural areas. This assistance infrastructure supports improvements; business development; housing; community facilities such as schools, public safety and health care; and high-speed internet access in rural areas. For more information, visit www.rd.usda.gov.

Contributions

Arkansas Land and Community Development Corporation (ALCDC) is a non-profit 501 (C-3) Tax exempt community-based organization. All contributions and donations to the organization supports its work guided by its vision to assist the underserved and unserved rural communities and residents. The development of sustainable rural communities is our highest value. We envision a diverse community where the opportunity for wealth and power is equitably distributed and communities are esthetically beautiful.

Ours is a community where collective work is immensely valued; where young people are seen as future leaders and progressive social change is realized. Our vision is of a community where self-determination and self-reliance, homeownership, economic opportunity, innovative rural and community development are commonplace, environmentally safe and economically sound sustainable agriculture abounds.

Contributions can be made through Pay-Pal on our website http://alfdc.webs.com or mailed to the organization. For more information contact us at (870) 734-3005. We appreciate your support in the organization.

Arkansas Land and Community Development Corporation Annual Winter Farmers Conference

Arkansas Land and Community Development Corporation will convene its annual Winter Farmers and Community Economic Development Conference January 17, 2020 at the ALFDC Business Conference Center, 484 Floyd Brown Fargo, Arkansas. The theme for this year's event is: Creating Resource Opportunities for All Through Public and Private Partnership. The conference will bring together rural & urban farmers, beginning farmers, landowners, veterans, rural residents, government agencies, elected officials, rural business and faith and communitybased organizations interested in working toward achieving sustainable economic recovery for our rural & urban agriculture underserved /unserved communities. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) national and state representatives along with other public and private business enterprises will engage in providing solution driven information for financial and other resource opportunities. The opening morning speaker for the event is Gary Barrett, Acting Deputy Director with United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, National Partnership Office, Washington D.C, the luncheon speaker will be Ronald Harris, Director of USDA Natural Resource and Conservation Service Outreach and Partnership Division in Washington D.C. The theme for the conference will be further supported by technical resource representatives from USDA and other public and private sector agencies. Technical resource representatives will provide focus points of information in the following areas:

- 1. **Resource Opportunities for Heir Property:** This session will be led by professional specialist who will address heir property resolutions for rural and urban residents and solutions to maximizing the use of heir property as an asset.
- 2. <u>Conservation Resource Opportunities for Rural & Urban Agriculture</u>: This session will be led by professional resource specialist who will address conservation program resource opportunities, including financial, technical and educational program service for rural and urban residents.
- 3. <u>Farm Financing, Micro-Urban Farming, Local Food Supply, and Opportunities for Beginning Farmers</u>: This session will be led by a professional resource specialist who will discuss micro- urban farm certification, direct marketing practices, alternative crop production, local food supply, cooperative development, farm financing, debt servicing for farm retention and Disaster Assistance Programs for socially disadvantaged, beginning, and limited resource farmers/ranchers.

The entire conference event is free to the public. For additional information and pre-registration, you should call (870) 734-3005.

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SAVE THE DATE

JANUARY 17, 2020 ANNUAL WINTER FARMERS CONFERENCE

Arkansas Land and Community Development Corporation (ALCDC) will host the Winter Farmers' Conference for Arkansas Land and Farm Development Corporation (ALFDC) Friday, January 17th at the ALFDC Business and Conference Center in Fargo, AR. The conference is open to the public. Additional information will be mailed out soon. We are anticipating your participation.



Office Closing

December 24th through January 1st. We will re-open on Thursday, January 2nd.

Happy Holidays!!!



FARMING

COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Dr. Calvin R. King,
President

Dr. Brian Cornelious,
Board of Chairman

Hosted By:



For more information:

Visit http://alfdc.webs.com

ARKANSAS LAND & FARM DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

484 Floyd Brown Drive Brinkley, AR 72021

870-734-1140

ALFDC/ALCDC Partnership Membership | Renewal Form

October 2019 – September 2020

Individual Membership \$25 Organization Mem	
Membership Benefits	
Advocacy and Public Relations — ALCDC/ALFDC participates in federal and state hearing sessions that focus on policy development for its members, farmers, youth and rural residents.	
Member Opportunities — ALCDC/ALFDC offers leadership opportunities within the organization for our youth, farmers and rural residents. Members are also recommended for advisory boards at the federal, state and local levels.	
Marking Opportunities — ALCDC/ALFDC offers cooperative marketing opportunities for farmers and rural businesses interested in collective marketing. We also offer the opportunity to present or set up an exhibit during our Annual Conference. We offer facility rentals at a discounted fee to all ALCDC members.	
Access to Housing, Farming and Youth Services — ALCDC/ALFDC offers rural residents the opportunity for affordable housing, home ownership education, business development, assistance with accessing farm financing, training on conservation program practices, youth leadership development, education enrichment and workforce readiness.	
Information and Communication — ALCDC/ALFDC members representative via phone or website concerning their farming, house receive ALCDC updates and news through our quarterly newsletted.	sing or youth service's needs. Members
Name	
Address	
City, Zip Code	
Phone	
Please return your application and tax-deductible contribution to:	
ALCDC/ALFDC Membership Program P.O. Box 743, Brinkley, AR 72021	

ALCDC/ALFDC services and programs are available without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability or familial status.



P.O. Box 907 Brinkley AR 72021

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ABOUT THE ADVANCER

The Advancer is a publication of the Arkansas Land and Community Development Corporation. It is printed and circulated as a public service and communication resource for our membership and constituents. This publication is also circulated to a broad range of organizations and residents throughout the Delta and the United States.

The Advancer reflects the nature of our work — providing self-help opportunities and support services to our farmers and others of limited resources in our 42-county service area. Our work is dedicated to helping people become more productive and self-sufficient. Your comments and suggestions are appreciated. Direct all comments and inquiries regarding this publication by phone to (870) 734-3005 or e-mail to mary harris15@yahoo.com.

You may correct your mailing address on the label above and fax back to (870) 734-4197 or call Mary Harris at (870) 734-3005.

ALCDC Staff

Dr. Calvin R. King Sr., President and Chief Executive Officer
J.D. Davis, Vice President for Program and Policy
Mary Harris, Farm Administrative Assistant, Office Administrator
LaShica Miller, Vice President Chief Financial Operations Officer
Gerelisa Swanigan, Accounts Payable
Tameecia Smith, Housing Manager, Vice President Special Assistant
Jasmine Burnett, Accounts Receivable
Albert Jones, Farm Director
Mike Tucker, Farm Advisor

Multi-Family Housing (off-site)

Tameecia Smith, McNeil Apartments, Phase I Crawfordsville, Earle & Pinewood Apt. Dev. Brinkley
Shannon Barnes, Chapel Ridge, Phase I and II, Forrest City, Resident Manager
Keisha Caffey, Meadowbrook, Marianna, Helena-West Helena, Resident Manager

Amanda Rogers, Alcott Manor, Palestine, Resident Manager Amanda Rogers, Stone Brook, Forrest City and Wynne, Resident Manager Nelson Hubbert, Environmental Engineer

ALCDC MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of ALCDC is to provide advocacy outreach, technical assistance and training to limited resource small farmers and all rural residents to alleviate sustainable farming and strengthen communities' economic sustainability and workforce readiness.

ALCDC services and programs are available without regard to age, race, religion, gender or physical handicap.