

# HLA Happenings

Issue: 24-10  
March 15, 2024

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## HLA Alumna Honored at Distinguished Ag Alumni Ceremony



HLA was delighted to celebrate our own alumna last week at the Distinguished Agriculture Alumni awards ceremony. **Stacy Haviland** is

a 2002 graduate of our Landscape Architecture program who has had an outsized influence on the Landscape Architecture profession here in Indiana through her work first with Earth Source, Inc. and now with the City of Fort Wayne, where she ensures climate change impacts are accounted for in accessible and beautiful city developments.

## Former HLA Faculty/Department Head Celebrates 99th Birthday



Former HLA faculty member and Department Head, **Homer Erickson**, celebrated his 99th birthday on Friday, March 8th with his wife Carolyn, four children from all over the globe, some grandchildren and **Jules Janick** & Patricia Ryan at their home on Salisbury St. where they have resided since....forever. At the party, Homer reminisced and shared some stories. He told his family and friends that he once cross-country skied to work one day when West Lafayette had a blizzard and still ended up being late as he spent more time helping people dig out their cars! Wisconsin-born and bred but a proud Boilermaker for a long time, when asked who he'd be rooting for when Purdue plays Wisconsin this past weekend... "Whoever wins," he laughed. "And that'll most likely be Purdue!"

## Jeanine Arana Finalist in 3MT Competition



### AWARDS

- First and second place
- People's choice

Join to support and vote for *Cover Crops in the War Against Weeds* by **Jeanine Arana** from the Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture.

Tue, April 9, 2024

6:30 - 9:00 pm

Join in person at **Fowler Hall**, West Lafayette, IN or **ONLINE** from anywhere in the world!

FREE

Register



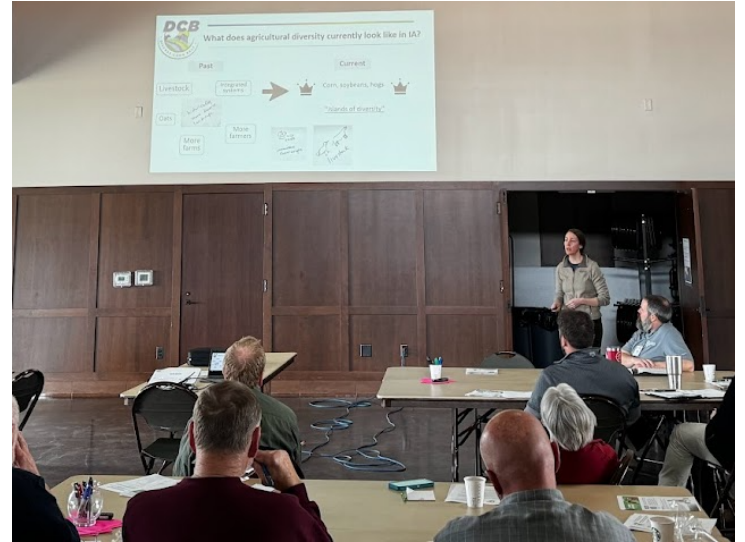
**Jeanine Arana** (Ph.D., Meyer's Lab) is one of ten finalists in **Purdue's 3MT (Three Minute Thesis) Competition**. The 3MT Competition is a research communication competition that develops academic, presentation, and research communication skills while developing the skills to explain their research to an intelligent, non-specialist audience in three minutes using only one slide. Jeanine is the only finalist from the College of Agriculture! Cash prizes are awarded to the first place, second place, and audience choice.

Let's support Jeanine during the finals with her presentation "Cover Crops in the War Against Weeds" on Tuesday, April 9, 6:30-9:00 PM at Fowler Hall (and online)! [Registration](#) is free to attend, and don't forget to vote for her for the People's Choice Award!

## Dr. Kathryn Orvis Presented at Indiana Small Farm Conference

Dr. **Kathryn Orvis** participated in the panel discussion titled "Urban Ag: Engaging Youth" during the Indiana Small Farm Conference. Joining her were fellow panelists Danielle Guerin from the Soul Food Indy Project and Aster Bekele from the Felege Hiywot Center. All panelists are NCR-SARE grant recipients.

## HLA Diverse Corn Belt Team Hosted Meeting in Iowa



HLA members of the Diverse Corn Belt project (Dr. **Aaron Thompson**, **Shivika Aggrawal**, Dr. **Lauren Asprooth**, and **Emily Usher**) hosted a Reimagining Agricultural Diversity Meeting with farmers and other ag stakeholders in Marion, IA last week. This engaging meeting had 20 participants and lively conversations about what is needed to increase agricultural diversity on the landscape



## Dr. Ariana Torres Interviewed for National Geographic Article

National Geographic interviewed Dr. **Ariana Torres** for an article regarding food labels: [Health food packaging buzzwords are confusing. This guide can help.](#)

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## Sofía Gómez Featured in a Student Profile for Inside Grower



**Sofía Gómez** (MS/Gómez Lab) was interviewed for Inside Grower's Student Profile in their [March 5 newsletter](#). In the interview, she discussed a bit about herself, her research, her advice to other students, and her future plans.


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## Purdue Agriculture Article Features a Special Group of New EMG Volunteers

Purdue Agriculture published an article titled "[Rehabilitation through cultivation—from incarceration to Master Gardeners](#)" featuring six residents from the Chain O'Lakes Community Re-Entry Center who became **Purdue Extension Master Gardener** interns through basic training offered last fall in Noble County.

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## HLA Spring 2024 Seminar Series – Dr. Lailiang Cheng

 **PURDUE UNIVERSITY** Horticulture and Landscape Architecture

# 2024 HLA Spring Seminar

**Dr. Lailiang Cheng, Professor**  
Horticulture Section, School of Integrative Plant Science  
Cornell University

Thursday March 21<sup>st</sup>, at 3:30pm, HORT 117 or via Zoom.



Coffee and light refreshments will be provided

**"Apple Flower Development and Fruit Acidity in Relation to Sorbitol"**

**Abstract:**

Apple and other tree fruits in the Rosaceae family synthesize, transport and utilize sorbitol in addition to sucrose for plant growth and development, with sorbitol being predominant. This contrasts with most other plants where sucrose serves as the sole transport sugar and appears to be adequate for plant growth and development. What role does sorbitol play in carbohydrate metabolism, plant growth and development, and stress tolerance in sorbitol-synthesizing species? In this presentation, I'll show that sorbitol, in addition to being a carbon source, acts as a signal regulating stamen development and pollen tube growth in apple via transcription factor MYB39L. MYB39L binds to the promoter of the gene encoding a sugar transport protein, STP13a, which takes up both hexose and sucrose for pollen germination and tube growth, in response to sorbitol. I will also show that sorbitol modulates the expression of *ALUMINUM ACTIVATED MALATE TRANSPORTER 9 (ALMT9/Ma1)*, which underlies the *Ma* (malic acid) locus in apple, via a winged helix DNA binding transcription factor. At the end, I'll briefly discuss how sorbitol signaling could be used for regulating apple tree development and stress tolerance and bigger questions on adapting apple production to a changing climate.

Purdue University is an Equal Access/Equal Opportunity institution.

**Dr. Lailiang Cheng, Professor**

Horticulture Section, School of Integrative Plant Science  
Cornell University

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# This Week in the Jules Janick Horticulture Garden



Jetfire Miniature Daffodil  
*Narcissus cyclamineas 'Jetfire'*

**PURDUE UNIVERSITY** Jules Janick Horticulture Garden

## Purdue Hydroponics and Greenhouse Crop Production Webinar Series (2024)

Registration is free

Register here for all webinars: [https://purdue.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_e5UHHPj4UtdQ0QK](https://purdue.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_e5UHHPj4UtdQ0QK)

1. Nutrient Management in Recycling Hydroponic Systems (April 15, noon to 1 pm)
2. Temperature Management (Summer/ Winter) in Greenhouses (May 15, noon to 1 pm)
3. Organic Lettuce Production in Hydroponic Systems (June 12, noon to 1 pm)
4. How to Build an Indoor Hydroponic Production System for Homes and Schools (Aug 21, noon to 1 pm)
5. Fundamentals of Soilless Substrates for Floriculture Crop Production (Sep 18, noon to 1 pm)

Purdue Controlled Environment Agriculture Research & Extension

### Contacts for additional information

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ljollybr@purdue.edu)  
Dr. Krishna Nemali (knemali@purdue.edu)



Register for the Purdue Hydroponics and Greenhouse Crop Production Webinar Series.

## Purdue Small Farm Education Field Day

SAVE THE DATE

**PURDUE SMALL FARM  
EDUCATION FIELD DAY**

**JULY 25, 2024**

at the Purdue Student Farm

<https://www.purdue.edu/hla/sites/studentfarm/events/>

PRESENTED BY:



## HLA's Tent at Spring Fest 2024

### SPRING FEST 2024

SATURDAY, APRIL 13  
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM  
HLA TENT / SITE 22  
(AG MALL ACROSS FROM HORT)

#### ACTIVITIES

- PLANT NECKLACES
- PLANT SALE (IN HORT GREENHOUSE) BY HORT CLUB AND PURDUE STUDENT FARM
- KID'S ACTIVITY WITH PASLA
- EXTENSION MASTER GARDENER Q&A AND CONTAINER GARDENING DEMONSTRATION

**PURDUE UNIVERSITY** Horticulture and Landscape Architecture

## Purdue Fruit and Vegetable Field Day

SAVE THE DATE

**Purdue Fruit and  
Vegetable Field Day**

**THURSDAY, JULY 18, 2024**

Purdue Meigs Ag Center  
9101 S 100 E, Lafayette, IN 47909



## Purdue Hydroponics and Greenhouse Crop Production Webinar Series

It is the policy of the Purdue University that all persons have equal opportunity and access to its educational programs, services, activities, and facilities without regard to race, religion, color, sex, age, national origin or ancestry, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, disability or status as a veteran. Purdue is an Affirmative Action Institution. This material may be available in alternative formats.

### Newsletters:

Facts for Fancy Fruits: <https://fff.hort.purdue.edu>

Vegetable Crops Hotline: <https://vegcropshotline.org/>

Purdue Landscape Report: <https://www.purduelandscape.com/>

