

Extension Comings and Goings
From the Office of the Dean for Extension
January 2007

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Streaming Presentation by Dr. Terril Nell

This edition's streaming presentation by Dr. Terril Nell utilizes the new system recently acquired by IFAS Communication Services - synchronizing streaming video or audio with the presenter's PowerPoint presentation. Viewing the presentation requires Microsoft Explorer, Windows Media Player 9 and a relatively fast Internet connection. For those using dial-up access, a modem version is also supplied, which plays an audio version of the presentation synchronized with the PowerPoint slides.

Comings and Goings for January-- Solutions for Your Life Update [Bandwidth](#)

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New Faculty - Our Extension Family is growing. Please welcome the following new hires:

Annemarie Post, Program EA I, FYN Homeowner & Condo Assoc., Sarasota County, 12/1/2006

Barbara Smith, EA I, Environmental Horticulture, Baker County, 12/15/2006

Heather Futch, EA I, FCS, Baker/Bradford County, 12/15/2006

Joseph Sowards, EA I, Horticulture, Putnam County (M/C), 1/12/2007

Bradley Burbaugh, EA I, Ag/Nat Res, Duval County, 1/26/2007

Welcome back Clyde Smith, EA II, Regional Specialized Agent/IPM, Jackson County, 1/8/2007

Monica Brinkley is acting CED for Calhoun County, and Joe Pergola is acting CED in Hillsborough County until new CEDs are hired for these positions.

Resignations - We want to wish the following faculty the best of luck in their endeavors:

Jessica Potter - EA I - 4 - H - Miami-Dade County - 12/1/2006

Brantley Ivey - EA I - Livestock - Polk County - 12/12/2006

Vera Gasparini - EA II Regional Specialized Com Horticulture - Orange County - 12/15/2006

Lynn Middleton - 4-H Extension Agent I - Putnam County - 12/14/2006

Logan Barbee - County Extension Director and EA III - AG/4-H-Calhoun County -12/31/2006

Mary Markward - EAI - 4 H Youth Dev-Lee County - 1/2/2006

Carrie T. Stevenson - FYN EA 1 - Escambia County - 1/5/2007

Retirement - After many years of service and dedication Mary Chernesky (CED and EA IV FCS - Hillsborough County) and Linda Mixon (EX Program Asst. - Miami-Dade County) have retired. We want to thank them for all of their contributions to UF/IFAS Extension.

Dr. Mabel D. Edlow, Extension Family Resource Management Specialist, 1890 Program will leave Florida A&M University on March 1st to join the Virginia State University Cooperative Extension Program in Petersburg, VA. Dr Edlow served admirably with the Florida Cooperative Extension Service at FAMU for the past 14 years. On February 23rd a luncheon celebration in her honor will be held in Tallahassee at the Ramada Inn North, Monroe Street from 12:00 - 3:00 P.M. Contact our Office at 850-599-3546 for additional information (Ms. Jenaya Anderson).

My State-County Experience

Eboni J. Baugh, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Family Life

During the course of my state/county faculty experience, I was able to interact with two dynamic extension agents in the state of Florida. The first visit was with Stephanie Toelle (Extension Agent, Family Life Education, Duval County). Stephanie requested that I assist in the delivery of the 7 Habits for Strong Families curriculum for the Community Corrections Division of the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office. She has been working within corrections providing resources to both male and female inmates. As part of the curriculum, inmates

participated in discussions and activities aimed at fostering strengths and resilience in their families. I also had the opportunity to deliver a presentation at the Robert F. Kennedy Community Center, East Jacksonville on body image and eating disorders among teens and adults. Both parents and children in attendance participated and discussed many of their concerns of how these problems affect the African American community.

During my second visit, I was privileged to attend a district planning meeting/luncheon. In addition to meeting extension agents and community partners, I was able to get an idea of what programs are being offered through the Duval County extension office. Subsequent to my visits, Stephanie and I have several ideas that we are working on. We are looking at working with the Healthy Families and Responsible Fatherhood initiatives in the state of Florida and training volunteers to apply principles from Family Treasures throughout Florida's communities.

For my second county experience, I was paired with Diana Converse (Extension Faculty, Family Life, Hillsborough County). Diana invited me to a staff and planning meeting. There, I met agents in the office and was updated on current and future programs in that county. I toured the facility, was introduced to staff, and obtained detailed information about Hillsborough County and the needs of its residents. On my next visit, Diana and I attended county developmental screenings of children ages birth -five, as the county provides this service at no cost to residents. During screenings for speech, vision, hearing, and developmental delays, we addressed concerns from parents about behavioral and developmental issues with their children. Diana provided printed psychoeducational information and EDIS publications focused on numerous parenting and family issues for the parents. She even had homemade bean bag toys to entertain children while their parents received such information.

Diana and I discussed the importance of birth order, or sibling position, as it relates to parenting and family development. We are currently working on a parent-friendly presentation/workshop on birth order which contains parenting techniques they can use with each.

Francisco J. Escobedo, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor, School of Forest Resources and Conservation

Traditionally trees in cities and communities have been managed individually, but the School of Forest Resources and Conservation Urban Forestry State Extension program deals with managing the sum of all trees and vegetation in and around urban areas and communities for the health and well being of all people. As part of the State-County extension experience I was paired with Rob Northrop (Hillsborough County) and Henry Mayer (Miami-Dade County). A series of mutual visits during September and October resulted in several on-going extension and applied research projects.

In Miami-Dade County, Henry Mayer introduced me to several key players involved with managing trees in Miami-Dade. Meetings and site visits resulted in identifying opportunities for urban forestry extension and to understand the role of urban forests in improving environmental quality and well being of people. Three key issues identified were: 1. how to outreach urban forestry extension programs to Spanish-speakers, 2. the role that palms and shade trees play in community well being, and 3. Information on the impact of hurricanes and citrus canker on tree canopy management and how municipalities deal with these large-scale impacts.

As a result of the exchange, Henry and I have submitted a proposal to design and translate effective educational material in Spanish on the ecosystem benefits of urban forests. Recently we submitted a joint Spanish-English article to the Florida Arborist newsletter. As a result of the site visit a research opportunity was identified and we are undertaking a remote sensing and Geographical Information System project to detect tree and palm cover change over time in Miami. Results will be used to identify areas where tree plantings are necessary, evaluate existing and past tree-palm management and planting programs, and identify reasons for different canopy covers among municipalities of the Miami-Dade area.

Working with the Department of Environmental Resources Management, we are also currently developing a method to comprehensively assess Miami-Dade's urban forest and determine its distribution, structure, and role of trees and palms in air quality, cooling, and planting characteristics by different demographic groups and municipalities. Information can then be used to analyze and identify potential future pest and hurricane impacts, urban forest and their role in environmental quality, and distribution and abundance of urban invasive woody plants.

In Hillsborough County with Rob Northrop we identified several key areas that would benefit from increased extension cooperation between the state and county program efforts. The state extension was in need of a needs assessment of urban forestry and the County needed a template for evaluating extension needs and educational material. By working jointly with the Tampa Bay Watershed Forest Working Group we are undertaking a series of nominal group meetings with the community to assess perceptions of the benefits and costs of urban forestry. Results from these meetings will be used to design a region-wide survey questionnaire that will assess the extension needs, evaluate existing knowledge of urban forestry, and find extension and research opportunities in the Tampa Bay area. Additionally, working with Michael Andreu (SFRC- Plant City), the City of Tampa, and University of South Florida, we are also using applied research methods and models to assess the urban ecosystem of Hillsborough County. Results will provide information on the changes in forests due to urbanization, the state of urban trees and their management, changes in ecosystem services of trees, evaluation of different urban forest inventory systems, and identify the drivers behind loss of tree cover in and near urban areas.

Letterhead - There have recently been inquiries concerning the purchase and printing of letterhead and envelopes under the FedEx/Kinkos contract. The following information was provided by Ashley Wood and should clarify the procedure.

All UF/IFAS letterhead and envelopes should adhere to the new University of Florida standards. The guidelines are found at <http://identity.ufl.edu/print/#stationery>. Additional information on the approved wordmarks for UF/IFAS is found at <http://ics.ifas.ufl.edu/wordmarks.html>.

The printing of UF letterhead and envelopes is performed by UF contracted vendors listed at the same site, <http://ics.ifas.ufl.edu/wordmarks.html>. The vendors are Workflow One, Ameriprint, and INSTY-PRINTS. Please be aware that the list for the approved vendors does not include FedEx/Kinko's.

IFAS Communication Services (ICS) will continue to produce the graphic design on all UF/IFAS letterhead and envelopes for departments, offices, centers, and units. ICS will provide a PDF of the letterhead and envelope design for approval. Upon approval, ICS will provide the graphics to the print vendor. The copies will be sent to departments, offices, centers, and units when printed.

First visit the ICS Web site <http://ics.ifas.ufl.edu/forms.html> and download the proper form. Fill out form and fax it to 352-392-7902 or mail to:

IFAS Communication Services
Hope Norman
PO Box 110810
Gainesville, FL 32611

The approved design of the letterhead and envelopes will be forwarded to the UF contracted vendor. The vendor will contact the department, office, center, or unit for information on billing, delivery, and expected completion date.

If there are any questions about this process contact Tracy Zwillinger or Hope Norman at IFAS Communication Services.

A new version of DDIS (Distance Diagnostic and Identification System for Extension) has been released. This new release includes many new features and enhancements.

DDIS is a joint effort by extension agents, specialists, and IFAS IT. The system is an effective tool for extension agents, specialists, and diagnosticians to share information on plant insects and diseases. DDIS can be used as a tool to enhance the capacity for screening, monitoring, mapping pests in time and space, and quickly detecting high-consequence pests

and dangerous plant pathogens that have been introduced into agricultural and natural ecosystems.

To sign up as a DDIS user, please visit the DDIS Web site and click on Sign Up.

<http://ddis.ifas.ufl.edu>

A list of new features can be found on the web page below.

<http://ddis.ifas.ufl.edu/ddisx/jsp/html/howto.jsp#new>

Training.ifas.ufl.edu is Available -If you don't already know about it, there is a web resource available called Training.ifas.ufl.edu. The site offers information on many Extension training programs and sessions at Extension offices and online. Of the online sessions available, these include some of the presentations which were recorded at the Extension Symposium in May 2006.

Also available is the Deer and Turkey Shortcourse, recorded at the DeSoto County Extension office in August 2006. These presentations are best viewed using the Internet Explorer browser with both broadband and modem versions available for viewing. Look for the Quail Shortcourse presentations, recorded in Jefferson County in October 2006, coming soon!

Collier County marine extension awarded a \$14,000 boater education grant. The grant, from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, will support the creation of a portable education exhibit that highlights sustainable boating/angling practices. The exhibit will be displayed at festivals, boat shows and other public events. Funds will also support travel costs associated with the development of a boating stewardship program involving local and state agencies. The agent will serve as a coordinator for the program, which consists of representatives from the Marine Industries Association of Collier County, Rookery Bay NERR, City of Marco Island, City of Naples, FWC and DEP. [Contact: Bryan Fluech]

You Can Have the Last Word, Even after Death - "Five Wishes" has been called "the living will with a heart and a soul!" The five wishes are for: 1) The person I want to make care decisions for me when I can't; 2) The kind of medical treatment I want or don't want; 3) How comfortable I want to be; 4) How I want people to treat me; 5) What I want my loved ones to know. This one-hour program opens communication between family members and helps individuals make end of life decisions. Participants at these programs have really appreciated the guidance in making these difficult decisions. Forty-one participants have attended this program and requested additional copies for 95 other family members. They have saved \$60 per person (what a local attorney would charge to complete a living will) making a total savings of \$8,160. As a result of the success of these program an additional 6 programs have already been scheduled for 2007. [Contact: Betsy Crisp]

State Awards: Pinellas Master Naturalist Program & Wildlife Biologist - This Chapter Achievement Award for 2006, presented at the University of Florida, in November, was a

surprise and is very well deserved. They received this recognition for their outstanding community outreach, passion for educating others about Florida's natural areas, and being a wonderful model for other FMNP chapters throughout the state. There are 71 other locations statewide offering the FMNP. The Extension Education Coordinator and Wildlife Biologist, also received the Florida Master Naturalist Instructor Achievement Award of the Central West Region from the University of Florida. [Contact: Jeanne Murphy]

Pinellas Master Gardeners Harvest Statewide Award - A prestigious Special Audiences Award was presented to Pinellas Master Gardeners for the concept and execution of a therapeutic garden at Clearwater's Upper Pinellas Association for Retarded Citizens (UPARC) Center. The award was presented recently at the annual Master Gardener Conference in Jacksonville, Florida. The team designed, constructed and planted the therapeutic garden. The garden provides a unique environment for UPARC clients who often walk for exercise, enjoy the color and activity in the butterfly garden or study in the Pizza Garden. As part of the Master Gardener education outreach, UPARC clients were included in the implementation of the garden. [Contact: Pam Brown]

Polk County Ag Tour - Fourteen Polk County decision makers participated in the 2006 Polk County Ag Tour for Decision Makers. Participants included a county commissioner, commission candidate (subsequently elected), deputy county manager, legislative assistants, environmental group representatives and news media. Tour stops included a tropical fish farm, commercial cow/calf operation, ornamental tree farm, and diversified family fruit and vegetable operation. This program was a collaborative effort between Extension, Polk County Farm Bureau, and the Polk County Cattlemen's Association. [Contact: John Brenneman]

Florida House Learning Center Featured on FEMA Web Site - The Florida House Learning Center in Sarasota County will be featured on the FEMA web site starting January 2007 as an example of "Best Practices" in building or rebuilding a home or business to be safer and stronger. Entitled "Drought Springs a Well of Community Support," the three-page article of information on the sustainable building and living features of the Florida House demonstration project, as well as brief historical information on the development of the Learning Center, can be viewed on www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/bestpractices and on the Sarasota County web site <http://sarasota.extension.ufl.edu> [Contact: Betty Alpaugh]

Entomology Education Coming to Elementary School Classrooms - Sarasota County is one of two Florida Counties that will be participating in a new UF/IFAS educational effort to provide entomology education resources for the state's elementary school teachers, in an effort to help them offer more science education in their classrooms. The Sarasota County 4-H and Integrated Pest Management Programs will be working with Dr. Jamie Ellis, new UF/IFAS educational outreach specialist, to produce the first curriculum on insects. The new curriculum will be taught in county schools by PhD candidate Michael Bentley, and evaluated for its effectiveness, after which it can be shared with other Florida counties. [Contact: Keith Wilson]

Extension Comings and Goings is a monthly newsletter distributed by the Office of the Dean for Extension via e-mail and on the Extension web site at <http://extadmin.ifas.ufl.edu>. If you have any suggestions or would like to submit your own recognition or short article of interest, please send them to Liz Perez at lizann@ufl.edu.