

## EXTENSION Tribute

### Rebecca Lynn Jordi

March 9, 1954–July 31, 2020



Rebecca Lynn Jordi passed away July 31, 2020, at the age of 66, after a courageous battle with cancer. She was at home, surrounded by family.

Becky was born March 1954, in Jacksonville, Florida. A daughter of Doyle and Sylvia Haddock, she graduated from Florida State University (BS), and Kutztown University (MS).

A teacher at heart, she taught at Northwestern Junior High, Word of Life Christian School, First Coast Christian School, and Penn State University Berks College, until she found her

calling as an Extension Agent for UF/IFAS Extension Nassau County.

It was here Becky thrived, starting as the horticulture agent, achieving certification with the International Society of Arborists, and becoming the UF/IFAS Extension Nassau County Extension Director.

Rebecca initiated many projects including the demonstration gardens at the Governmental Complex and the Yulee office; the Landscape Matters; Crash Course on Gardening; Garden Talk column in the *News Leader*; and many clinics on native plants, birds, rain barrels, herbs, and her beloved citrus. The Master Gardener program thrived under her leadership, with many of them tirelessly serving the community with science-based knowledge gained through UF/IFAS Extension.

She was often a feature speaker during the Home and Garden shows at Epcot, and did occasional TV appearances on WTLV 12 First Coast Living.

Her many awards include the Florida Association of Natural Resources Professionals-Mid Career Leadership Award; Florida Association of County Agricultural Agent Search for Excellence Team Award, National Finalist; National Finalist in Landscape Horticulture; Computerized Graphic

September – November 2020

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ALACHUA, BAKER, BRADFORD, CITRUS, CLAY, COLUMBIA, DIXIE, DUVAL, GILCHRIST, HAMILTON, LAFAYETTE, LEVY, MADISON, NASSAU, SUWANNEE, TAYLOR, AND UNION COUNTIES

Rebecca Lynn Jordi...continued from previous page

Presentation Silver Award; and Extension Professional Association Young Professional of the Year.

One of her greatest achievements is seeing her children's book "Zoe's Mission" published, which was illustrated by local artist and UF/IFAS Extension Florida Master Gardener Volunteer Joanne Roach. She also included her grandchildren in the plot.

Becky's priorities were always her love of the Savior, Jesus Christ, and her family, especially her three sons, Ben, John, and Nathan, and the fine young men they have become. Her faith guided her through every major decision and event; if it didn't line up with the Word of God, it just didn't happen. She was always kind, and thoughtful, putting others before herself.

She was preceded in death by her step-mother, Sylvia Haddock, sister Carolyn Osburn, and brother Billy David.

Rebecca is survived by her husband of 43 years, Doug; father, Doyle Haddock; sons, Ben (Julie), John (Stephanie) and Nathan (Jessicca); sister, Marolyn (Randy) Bristowe; brother, Dan (Brenda) Haddock; and grandchildren, Eli, Silas, Noah, Rowen, and Sophia; and nieces and nephews.

A private service will be held for the immediate family; however, a Celebration of Life will be held this fall to coincide with the dedication of the new Extension building on Miner Road which will bear her name.



*Thanks to Becky's commitment, tenacity, and endless support of volunteers, the Rebecca L. Jordi Cooperative Extension Service Building will become a reality in the near future. This image was taken prior to national guidelines of face coverings and social distancing.*

In lieu of flowers, fans of Becky can support the local UF/IFAS Extension Florida Master Gardener Volunteer program by purchasing "Zoe's Mission" from the County Extension Office in Yulee, phone 904-530-6350.

## FEATURE Story

### Alternate Use of Garden Treasures

**BJ Jarvis**  
CED/Horticulture Agent IV  
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Every year, many Extension Master Gardeners host a plant sale. Yes, we make some money but it is really an opportunity to bring in folks who might not come to the office for other reasons. These events are a protracted affair, with Master Gardeners propagating and fostering plants for months. But with COVID-19 and the need to be careful, plant sales across the state have been deemed non-essential and were cancelled.

While a good number of these plants can be held over, not all can. What to do with over 3,000 Citrus County plants?



So, we have had to get creative. The first thing is to identify plants that fit the Right Plant:Right Place philosophy in our demonstration garden and around out building. Next, we're offering plants to the county's five libraries, and numerous parks and community centers. Water Resources is getting some of the plants to soften the edges of a couple of water main lift stations

with FFL signs made to highlight the effort. Public Works wants some of the pines and Fakahatchee grass for a project. A local group that assists developmentally disabled individuals is also tapping into this year's resources. Finally, MGs have the ability to add some of the plants to their own collection.

While we don't know how long the pandemic is going to last, we are not letting a resource go to waste. We will miss educating the hundreds that normally come through our annual sale, we have found a way to be of assistance to our county partners. If you have found other beneficial ways to utilize the treasure trove of MG-raised plants, please let me know at [BJJarvis@ufl.edu](mailto:BJJarvis@ufl.edu)

## From the DISTRICT DIRECTOR



**Eric Simonne**  
UF/IFAS Extension  
DED - NE District  
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### Application of HACCP concepts for organizing Extension events that follow CDC and UF guidelines

The COVID-19 virus is known to spread mainly through close contact from person-to-person through (a) direct contact of an infected surface and then

touching mouth, nose, or possibly eyes, or (b) inhaling respiratory droplets produced as an aerosol when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks. Some people without symptoms may be able to spread the virus. Currently, no evidence supports that the COVID-19 virus is food-borne. Emphasizing prevention, the World Health Organization and the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention promote safe practices (Table 1).

Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) is a methodic, preventive approach to quality and safety of food items from biological, chemical, physical, and radiological hazards during production processes. When unchecked, these hazards can cause

the finished product to be unsafe or below quality. Rather than addressing risk continuously during production or manufacturing, HACCP seeks to (1) identify the steps of greater risks and (2) list specific risk-mitigating practices, and (3) define further actions needed when the safety or quality of the production process has been compromised.

Florida Extension allows different group meeting sizes based on the current re-opening phase. In phase 2, meetings of 10 people or less are allowed. In Phase 3 in-person meetings of up to 50 people indoors and up to 250 people outdoors are allowed. Floor markings may be useful to provide a visual guide to keep social distancing (Table 2).

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**Table 1. Recommendations from the World Health Organization (WHO) and the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for the prevention and slowing transmission of COVID-19.**

World Health Organization Guidelines
Wash your hands regularly with soap and water or clean them with alcohol-based hand rub.
Maintain at least 1-meter distance between you and people coughing or sneezing.
Avoid touching your face.
Cover your mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing.
Stay home if you feel unwell.
Refrain from smoking and other activities that weaken the lungs.
Practice physical distancing by avoiding unnecessary travel and staying away from large groups of people.
US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Guidelines
Maintain good social distance of about 6 feet.
Wash your hands often with soap and water. If soap and water are not available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
Routinely clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces.
Cover your mouth and nose with a mask when around others. Face shields or face coverings may be also used.

Source: WHO ([https://www.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus#tab=tab\\_2](https://www.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus#tab=tab_2)) and CDC (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/index.html>)

**Table 2. Sample floor markings for keeping social distancing for groups of 2 to 6 individuals.**

Number of people in the small group	Floor marking	Marks for individual standing
2	6 ft diameter circle	Diametrically opposite
3	Triangle with 6 ft sides	Outside the points of the triangle
4	Square with 6 ft sides	Outside the corners of the triangle
5	10 ft diameter circle*	One person every 6 ft
6	12 ft diameter circle**	One person every 6 ft

\*A 10-ft diameter circle has a circumference of  $2 \times 3.14 \times 5 = 30+$  ft allowing  $30/6 = 5$  persons along it.

\*\*A 12-ft diameter circle has a circumference of  $2 \times 3.14 \times 6 = 36+$  ft allowing  $36/6 = 6$  persons along it.



As an attempt to keep everyone safe and follow science-based recommendations, event organizers and Extension agents need to identify the steps of an event where the spreading of COVID-19 may likely occur – whatever the size of

the attendance During the event planning phase, organizers may outline the sequence of steps in that event in a chronological order and (1) identify the steps of greater risks and (2) identify risk-mitigating practices, and (3) define

further actions needed when safety may have been compromised. Each step in the sequence of phases of an Extension event presents its own risk (Table 3).

**Table 3. Critical control points of an in-person extension events, exposure risk, and CDC-derived measures.**

Critical Control Point	Epidemiologic or Exposure risk	Mitigating Measure	Comments
Pre-registration and registration	Unknown or uncontrolled attendance number resulting in overcrowding	Require pre-registration capped at venue-authorized capacity	Require registrants to bring their own face coverings. Offer an option to buy a Gator mask with the pre-registration. Have a few extra face coverings on hand.
Check-in station	Inability to maintain social distancing; handling cash or credit cards	Place marks of the floor spaced 6 ft apart. Require pre-payment with pre-registration. Offer multiple check-in lines. Sanitize area.	Program advertisement should specify the provision of “no-refunds” for no-shows and those not following safety measures
Signage	Lack of information leading to crowding	See CDC and UF websites for samples	Help to set the tone and shows the organizers’ commitment to safety
Small group conversations and greetings among attendees	Inability to maintain social distancing	Require facial protection	Health ambassadors help keep social distancing. Where possible, mark 6 x 6 squares with tape on the floor
Attendees not wearing mask or face coverings	Infection risk through aerosol and air drift	None really. “mandating” masks needs to be followed by enforcement	Create a “no mask section” similar to a “smoking section”
Moderator, speakers and health ambassadors	Same as for all participants	Same as for all participants	Have a role in setting the tone, be good examples, emphasize the protective aspect of the measures rather than the inconvenience. Consider reducing the room temperature to make the wearing of masks more comfortable
Classroom presentations that keep attendees seated	Inability to maintain social distancing	Include 2 empty chairs between each occupied chair	
Refreshment station	Inability to maintain social distancing; risk of items touched by multiple attendees without cleaning between uses	Sanitize area	Consider not offering such option
Lunch	Inability to maintain social distancing; risk of items touched by multiple attendees without cleaning between uses	Organize as many food lines as possible; offer boxed meals; place floor marks every six feet to maintain social distancing. Sanitize area	
Group activities	Inability to maintain social distancing; risk of items touched by multiple attendees without cleaning between uses		Keep groups small; have tables separated
Breaks	Inability to maintain social distancing	Showcase hand-washing stations	Consider an outside space where attendees can socially distance and temporarily remove their masks or face coverings

# Information TECHNOLOGIES

## Google Site Design

**Alicia Halbritter**

Ag/Natural Resources  
UF/IFAS Extension Baker County

**Heather Janney**

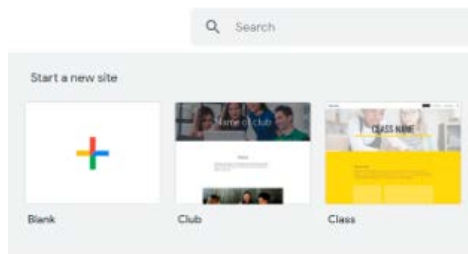
CED/4-H  
UF/IFAS Extension Columbia County

**Shaina Spann**

4-H  
UF/IFAS Extension Baker County

Google Sites is a new and highly functional tool available to UF/IFAS Extension for use in distance education tasks. This summer, 4-H professionals across the state used similar formats to develop activities for youth in their homes to do summer and day camps at a distance.

To start out, you'll need to go to Google Sites and login using your UFID. You'll decide if you wish to start with a blank Google Site or if you'd like to use a template. Select the starting point you'd like and it's easy from there.

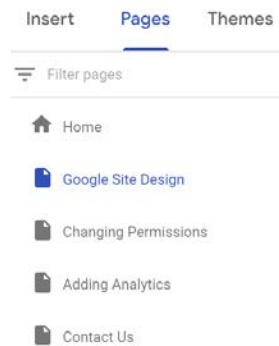


## Inserting Pages

Designing pages within a Google Site is simple. You need to develop a format that you would like each of your pages to follow. To insert pages, select "Pages" on the right side of your site design. At the bottom, select the plus and choose "New Page." You'll need to title each of your pages and these titles will populate in the upper right or the upper left corner of your Google Site. You can also select the menu (3 dots) to the right of each specific page to hide them from navigation. This can be helpful if you are releasing information at different times.

## Page Design

There are tons of different things to insert on Google Sites that will assist you in developing pages. On the right side of



utilized to help with teaching or to help keep the Site design uniform and clean.

## Inserting photos, PDFs, or other files

You will be placing photos/videos/documents that you would like to use for your layout in the team file. If you are using files directly from your Google Drive, please make sure that these are viewable by others. To do this,

visit the original file location in Google Docs and select share. Click "Get Shareable Link." Select the arrow down next to "Anyone at University of Florida with the link can view." Select "More" and select "On - Public on the Web" or "On - Anyone with the link." Select Save. Please remember to follow UF ADA Guidelines and UF/IFAS Best Practices with anything you choose to use.

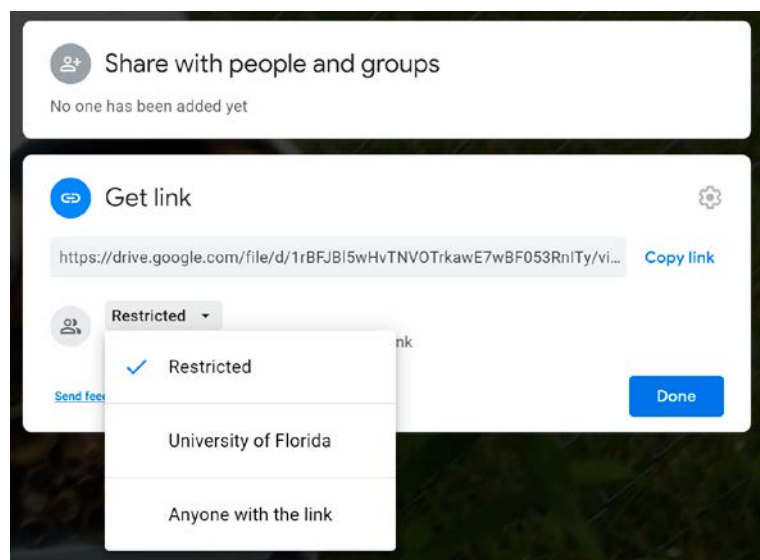
your Google Site Design, you'll have the option on the right side of your Google Site Design, you'll have the option for text box, images, different layouts, and inserting a multitude of tools that may be

## Setting up Google Analytics for Your Site

Google Sites are not set up to track user data, you'll have to do this with another application: Google Analytics. But don't fret, Google Sites and Analytics are easily combined! First, you'll want to make sure your Google Site is 'published' and the URL has been generated. Next, head to analytics.google.com and log in with your UFID. You may already have access to other google analytics, such as for your county blogs or county T4 website. To set up analytics for a new website (your google site), follow these steps:

1. Visit analytics.google.com and set up analytics.
  - At the bottom of the left-hand menu, click "Admin".
  - Click "+Create Account".

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- Name your account something appropriate. I used 'Google Sites' as this will house the tracking for all of the future google sites I develop. Go to the bottom of screen and click "Next".
  - In "What do you want to measure?" select what you feel most of your audience would use to access the site. Select "Web" as we are not currently developing an app. Go to the bottom of screen and click "Next".
  - The third step will be "Property Setup". The Property is the current google site (or other website) you wish to set up tracking for. Choose a website name that will help you easily identify the property. For example, for the 4-H virtual corn day camp, the tracking property name I have chosen is "Corn Camp". Enter the url from your published google site and click "Create".
  - Accept the terms given on the next pop-up box.
  - To get your tracking code, in the next screen that shows up, under Property, choose the menu option "Tracking Info" and then "Tracking Code". Copy the "Tracking ID" given here.
2. Open your Google Site back up.
    - Click the settings icon on the top right of your window.
    - Click Analytics and paste the ID into the provided box under "Analytics" tab.

Now you'll have access to all the tracking data for your website! You can view the number of users, what pages they visit, how much time they spend on your site, and much more. If you develop another google site, simply go back to Admin settings, under the "Account" you created to house google sites and choose +Create Property to make a new tracking code for that site.

You can even allow other collaborators to view your site analytics. Just above the tracking info option you'll see "Property User Management". Click here and a new window will pull up. Here you can add permissions for other people to view the analytics, just make sure you're using their preferred google email (usually their UFID).

The authors of this article have been very involved with site development and are willing to help you with any questions you might have. Visit our Google Site that we developed with plenty of pictures for your viewing at <https://sites.google.com/ufl.edu/gsuiteforagents/>.

And feel free to contact us!  
 Alicia Halbritter [alicia1221@ufl.edu](mailto:alicia1221@ufl.edu),  
 Heather Janney [hutch@ufl.edu](mailto:hutch@ufl.edu), or  
 Shaina Spann [slbennett@ufl.edu](mailto:slbennett@ufl.edu).

## What's WORKING?

### Broilers and Hens and now a SPIN: 24 Years and Counting

**Paulette Tomlinson**  
 UF/IFAS Agriculture and Natural Resources  
 Extension Agent II

Many show animal projects can be daunting to those new to agriculture. But the fair offers a great way to allow youth to compete and learn about caring and raising animals for show. It was around this concept that in 1996 our 4-H Coordinator and I began talking about animal projects and started kicking around some ideas. We thought about fair projects that unfortunately give youth a false sense of real animal production with inflated sale prices. Many of the cattle and swine shown are expensive and winning sometimes is based on how much money was spent



Laying Hen Spinners Facebook Group page.

on the animal. Large animal projects require larger type structure(s) and land; often these projects deter families that only have a small backyard. However, animal projects provide youth a great way to learn responsibility as well as how to feed and care for the animal.

So we came up with some objectives that might provide for a youth animal project that would be small enough to not require a lot of money

for structures or land; small enough that youth and parents would not be intimidated; and that would be a project youth could show at the local fair and find encouragement to want a larger project in the future. One more objective was that everyone would start out with the "same" animal, thus the Columbia County 4-H poultry project was born!

Poultry met the objectives we had set. They are small animals and will reach maturity in 8 to 16 weeks depending on the use of broilers or layers. We could purchase a large number from a single source and they would be from a single breed. The broilers would provide food for the families at the end of the project. The showing of the animals would be about how the youth handled the feeding and watering. The environment

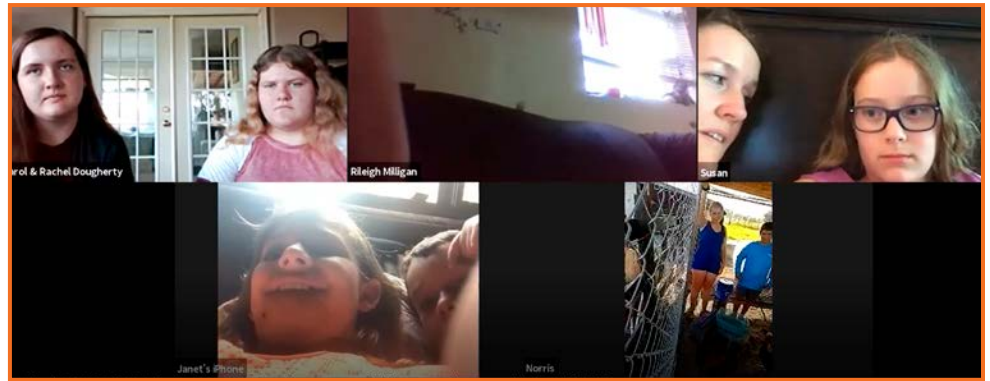
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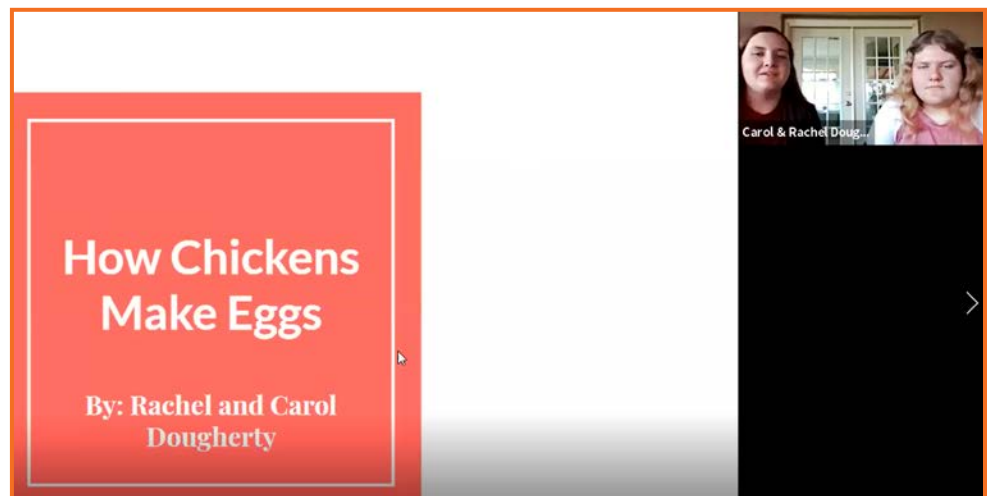
the animals were raised in would prove the difference, not the price or breeding. That first year was great except for the one thing we failed to account for: emotional attachment to the animals. Several families did not harvest their broilers or sell them to someone for that purpose. That began the 4-H Laying Hen Project which has continued now for 23 years.

The guidelines for the program started out fairly simple: be a 4-H member, pay for a set of chicks, attend a couple of meetings, fill out a record book, and show the animals at the fair. As time moves on so does the poultry program. The chicks are purchased at one time so sign up is critical. Over the years, the program registration has moved from in person or phone call to now using Eventbrite. The breed of chick varies year to year, the families get to help decide and approximately 10 youth participate yearly. Family and youth participants have offered other ideas for competition at the fair and those were instituted in 2019. These extra competitions included a maze race, Halloween dress up contest, egg decorating and showmanship. Seventy percent of the youth participated in at least two extra events.

Our educational efforts have evolved over the years as well. From attending a couple of meetings prior to showing we are now a special interest club, Laying Hen Spinners, meeting at least six times through the help and supervision of our new 4-H Agent/CED. When struck with the pandemic earlier this year, our first thought was we would not be able to have the project as before. However, a contingency plan was made, and we managed to get the chicks handed out to the youth through setting appointments and following all the proper CDC guidelines.



*Youth and adults participating in online meetings.*



*Kids teaching kids.*

Our educational efforts, this year, are conducted online using ZOOM. There is also the use of the "Remind App" allowing for contact through text messaging without sharing phone numbers, and a Facebook group was created. We have met monthly to provide chick updates and educate about feeds and feeding and other production parameters. While in person meetings from previous years seem to have been more "personal", I am not sure that through the online presence that the youth are not more connected with each other and their projects. They share ideas, videos, pictures and questions almost none of this was done before.

Overall, the poultry project has allowed for youth of all ages to enjoy a fun animal production project that has taught them the basics of animal husbandry. Youth range in age from 8 - 18 with approximately 20% of yearly participants showing other project animals, 99% of participants show their poultry projects at the Columbia County Fair and roughly 20% only have a backyard to grow animals in.

In the end, an idea and objective of using a small livestock project from over 20 years ago is still making an impact on youth in Columbia County even in a pandemic.



## PROFESSIONAL Development

### A New Perspective on Stress

**Halie Corbitt**

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Family Consumer Sciences Extension Agent I  
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Inspired by TED Talk: How to make stress your friend- Kelly McGonigal

In the last few months our world has been turned upside down. This has caused an increase in the stress levels of all of us. Having to figure out this "new normal" that seems everchanging is just one part of the stress we are all now carrying. So as our world continues to add stress to our lives, how are you handling it?

Stress is a part of daily life, but it can be viewed as a good or a bad thing and how you view it can really have an effect on you as well as your work. Our automatic response is to view stress in a negative way and that is partially because that is how it has been viewed in our society for so long. How many

### TED RADIO HOUR

times have you heard about someone having a health issue they linked to stress? However, have you ever thought you have the power to decide how you respond to the stress?

Research has shown that how we think about stress can actually influence whether we are at risk for dying (Yes, you read that right). If you believe that stress is harmful to you, then it is more likely that you will die from it. However, if you reframe your mind to think of stress in a positive way your chances of it having harmful effects on your body are slim to none. Just your mind set can make a huge difference. We can either decide to make stress our enemy or our friend. Changing our prospective of stress to a friend can have great effects on our mind, body, and life.

Now this doesn't mean that our body's initial response to stress will be any different. When we are under stress

our body will still probably show the initial signs of increased heart rate and breaths, but how we cope with these changes is what makes the difference. You can choose to think of these signs as anxiety or as your body getting ready to beat the challenge you are facing. Take those initial signs of increased breathing and heart rate and reframe them in your mind to think of the benefits they are giving to your body instead of how they are affecting your body. Think of the breaths as more oxygen for your body and the heart rate as helping you prepare for whatever your next move will need to be.

Simply changing our mind set towards our stress can make us more powerful to handle the stress and every situation we encounter. The benefits that this simple reframing can have on our lives is exponentially and can help us all to be healthier, happier, and more productive individuals.

### Actions toward Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

**Victor Blanco**

UF/IFAS Extension Taylor County  
Marine Extension Agent II  
victorblancomar@ufl.edu

There are two ways to think about Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) at the university level. The first one is about the number of underrepresented groups in the staff and, the second one, about the university providing services to underrepresented groups as our clientele. The Northeast District, as other districts in UF/IFAS, have staff from different countries, races, beliefs, cultures, etc. One of the initiatives that is actually moving forward and strong

is the Café Latino program, which provide products and services to Spanish speaking population in US and beyond its borders. Within Café Latino, several extension agents have participated in the development of different outreach materials, specially videos, that try to provide scientific-based information to solve daily life problems. Sea Grant is creating a "Florida Sea Grant en Español" program to reach the increasing Spanish speaking population in Florida and providing basic information about general topics to create awareness and increase knowledge about Florida's coastal ecosystems and natural resources. Starting September 15, 2020, Florida Sea Grant will use the Bite-sized Science Webinar Series

(Bocados de Ciencia, in Spanish) to deliver content about corals, mangroves, marshes and seagrass, artificial reefs, manatees, sea turtles, sharks, marine debris and water quality, among many other topics. The program includes a knowledge gain evaluation poll at the end of the Webinar and a follow-up survey about behavior change through the adoption of best practices. The Northeast District is in the process of creating a DEI Committee, and we all look forward to receiving guidelines on how to include this important theme into our extension programming.

**UF** IFAS Extension  
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA





## Coping with the Challenges of Covid-19

**Abbey Lundy Tharpe**

UF/IFAS Taylor County Extension Agent II  
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Have you ever thought about how your life has changed since the COVID-19 pandemic? For the essential workers, they were tasked with new cleaning procedures, wearing face mask and working tirelessly to remain safe. For parents, it involved an extended summer vacation that involved home-schooling via common core. For some, it involved closing their businesses for a period of time and others it was learning a new job within a job to reach the clientele they serve. I think we can all agree that we have learned how to adapt too many changes that have affected our lifestyles both at home and at work.

The coronavirus disease pandemic may be stressful for people. Fear and anxiety about a new disease and what could happen can be overwhelming for all of us and can cause strong emotions in adults and children. Social distancing has caused lots of stress and anxiety. Learning ways to cope with the stress in a healthy way will make you, the people you care about and your community stronger. Taking care of your friends and your family can be a stress reliever, but it should be balanced with care for yourself. Help others cope with their stress by providing social support. During times of increased social distancing, people can still maintain social connections and care for their mental health. Mental health is an important part of overall health and wellbeing. It affects how we think, feel, and act. It may also affect how we handle stress, relate to others, and make choices during an emergency.

Hearing about the pandemic repeatedly can be upsetting. There are healthy ways to cope with stress: Know what to do if you are sick and are concerned about Covid-19. Know where and how to get treatment. Take breaks from watching, reading, or listening to news stories on social media. Take care of yourself, eat healthy, exercise regularly, and take deep breaths and stretch. Make time to unwind by doing some activities you enjoy. Connect with others. Connect with your community or faith-based organizations.

At the end of this pandemic, we will all look back on this historic moment in time and remember the quarantine, the challenges we faced, the mask we wore, the extended summer vacation for kids and reflect on how we managed the challenges that Covid-19 caused.

## DISTRICT Life

### Three Northeast District Youth Elected to Serve as State 4-H Officers

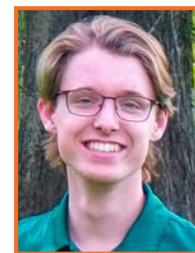
By the "Alachua 4-H Team"

One high school student from Bradford and two from Alachua were elected to represent the 200,000 youth 4-H members from across Florida. Ella Dinkins, 17, Will Eubanks, 17, and Benjamin Wolking, 15, will serve as 2020-2021 Florida 4-H State Council officers.



**Ella Dinkins**, a 17 year old senior at Hope Christian Academy in Bradford County and dual enrollment student at Santa Fe College, was elected Florida 4-H State

Council Secretary. Ella's goals for this year include sharing her pride in the 4-H program with other youth throughout the state by telling her 4-H story. She is excited about being part of the leadership team that is guiding 4-H through this year of change and uncertainty, and she looks forward to representing the youth program at as many events throughout the state as opportunity allows. This will be Ella's 13th and final year as a 4-H member. She has participated in multiple projects throughout her 4-H career and has been a first place winner in many public speaking and demonstration contests including winning three times at Florida 4-H University. Additionally, Ella is beginning her third year as the club co-leader of a 4-H club in her county. She enjoys playing the piano and being active in church and school activities



**Will Eubanks**, a rising senior at PK Yonge Developmental Research School and dual enrolled student at Santa Fe College, was elected Florida 4-H State

Council Reporter. His goals for the year include providing connections to all members through a news show, newsletter, and social media. Will has been a 4-H member since he was 5 years old and has competed and placed nationally with his 4-H forestry team, served as a Florida delegate to national and international events, and has taught environmental science classes throughout the Southeast. Will's passion is residential camp where he has attended as a camper and counselor for 9 years.

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Three Northeast District Youth Elected to Serve as State 4-H Officers...continued from previous page

He plans to major in forestry in college and hopes to work as a camp naturalist.



**Benjamin Wolking**, a rising homeschool sophomore, was elected Florida 4-H State Council Treasurer. Benjamin plans to focus on larger fundraising

efforts that will assist local clubs and county 4-H programs especially during these times of pandemic. He has been a 4-H member since he was 5 years old and competes nationally with his 4-H National Ocean Science Bowl team. He is an accomplished public speaker and competitive swimmer. Benjamin enjoys learning about architecture.

The three teens have already started their virtual new officer training with the five other elected officers from around the state. This year's officer team aims to provide the highest quality programming possible for the entire 4-H year, whether virtual or in-person.

## SUCCESS Stories

### 4-H@4 Taking Place this Fall

#### Grace Carter

UF/IFAS Extension Duval County, 4-H Agent

#### Beth Kerr

UF/IFAS Extension Hamilton County, 4-H/FCS Agent

#### Matt Olson

UF/IFAS Extension Clay County, 4-H Agent

#### Shaina Spann

UF/IFAS Extension Baker County, 4-H Agent

#### Andy Toelle

UF/IFAS Extension 4-H Youth Development NE Regional Specialized 4-H Agent

As 4-H programs moved to virtual platforms this spring, agents in Northeast Florida recognized a need for quality virtual content. 4-H@4 was created to be an inclusive, educational, and accessible workshop series for youth across the state. The agents' goal was to provide youth with diverse workshop topics that would otherwise be unavailable in their county while also giving participants an opportunity to complete a project at home and share what they learned with others. Over a three-month period, 84 youth and 18 agents from across Florida participated in seven virtual workshops. Each workshop took place at 4:00 on a weekday and included interactive games, polls, demonstrations, and challenges to engage youth. Topics included physics,



hurricane preparation, entomology, robotics, nutrition, and graphic design.

This Fall, 4-H@4 is returning as a monthly program. When youth register, they will receive a supply list for the month's workshop. Supplies are low cost items families already have at home or that can be easily picked up at the grocery store. See our Fall



lineup below and follow Florida 4-H on Facebook for dates and registration links.

**September - 4-H Arts Challenge**  
**October - 4-H STEM Challenge: Mars Base Camp**  
**November - 4-H Service Learning Challenge**  
**December - 4-H Cooking Challenge**

## Hands-On in a Virtual World

**Shaina Spann**

UF/IFAS Extension Baker County, 4-H EA II

**Matt Olson**

UF/IFAS Extension Clay County, 4-H EA I

**Whitney Thames**

UF/IFAS Extension Miami-Dade County, 4-H EA I

How do you plan hands-on activities when creating virtual programming? 4-H Agents in Baker, Clay, and Miami-Dade counties came together to create a virtual summer program for youth that incorporated hands-on activities.

Brick Masters is a STEAM-based virtual program that posed challenges to participants while utilizing their interlocking plastic bricks (such as LEGO) through videos, slides, and educational content hosted through Google Sites.

There were 6 initial lessons. Including:

- **Think Like an Engineer.** The 8 science and engineering practices explained
- **Getting Organized.** How to sort and organize interlocking plastic bricks
- **Getting to Know You.** Building their name and favorite animal in toy bricks
- **Race to The Finish Line.** Build a balloon powered car and marble maze
- **Sinking Suspicions.** Build a boat that can float and hold cargo
- **Bridging the Gap.** Build a bridge that can hold cargo

These activities taught youth STEAM concepts and sent them out to complete the challenge, where they later came back and reported their results. Out of the 351-youth registered, 91 youth participated in challenges, 24 youth completed all challenges, 330 accessed the Google Site with 3,145 page views. One parent emailed and said that, "Brick Masters was excellent! It helped to keep my child occupied during the day while working remotely!"

### 4-H Brick Masters

- Home
- Think Like An Engineer
- Getting Organized
- Getting To Know You**
- Race To The Finish Line
- Sinking Suspicions
- Bridging the Gap
- ▼ Expansion Pack 1
- After Camp Resources
- COVID 19 Updates

## GETTING TO KNOW YOU

### TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF!

#### HOW TO BUILD LETTERS

This video from LEGO Academy shows how you can build letters. This is just an example, you can do your own style. Be creative!

#### CAN YOU BUILD YOUR NAME IN TOY BRICKS?

There are 2 different ways that you can build your name out of toy bricks. Flat and 3 dimensional. Choose one and build your name!

### LET'S THINK LIKE AN ENGINEER

Engineering Design Process

For our challenges, we have a few objectives:

- Build a your name and an animals out of plastic interlocking bricks.
- Are you going to choose the 2-D or 3-D type of build? Can you be more creative with your own style?
- Build an animal that you like. It can be simple or complex. Tell us what you build!

#### Engineering Design

```

graph TD
    SHARE[SHARE  
Communicate Your Solution] --> ASK[ASK?  
Identify Problems, Constraints, Objectives, Resources]
    ASK --> IMAGINE[IMAGINE  
Generate Ideas, Possible Solutions]
    IMAGINE --> PLAN[PLAN  
Evaluate and Compare]
    PLAN --> CREATE[CREATE  
Select Solution, Develop and Refine]
    CREATE --> TEST[TEST  
Evaluate Design]
    TEST --> IMPROVE[IMPROVE  
Refine Design]
    IMPROVE --> SHARE
  
```

\* At any given point you may return to a previous step in order to improve.

### REPORT RESULTS

#### About Me: Name Challenge

Please upload a photo or video of your build. Be sure to answer all of the questions. When you complete all of the challenges (and upload photos) you will be entered into a drawing to win LEGO brand tickets.

FOR ALL PARTS

### WHAT OTHER CAMPERS ARE DOING



## A Virtual Nap Time Plant Clinic

**Taylor Clem, PhD**

UF/IFAS Extension Alachua County  
Environmental and Community Horticulture Agent

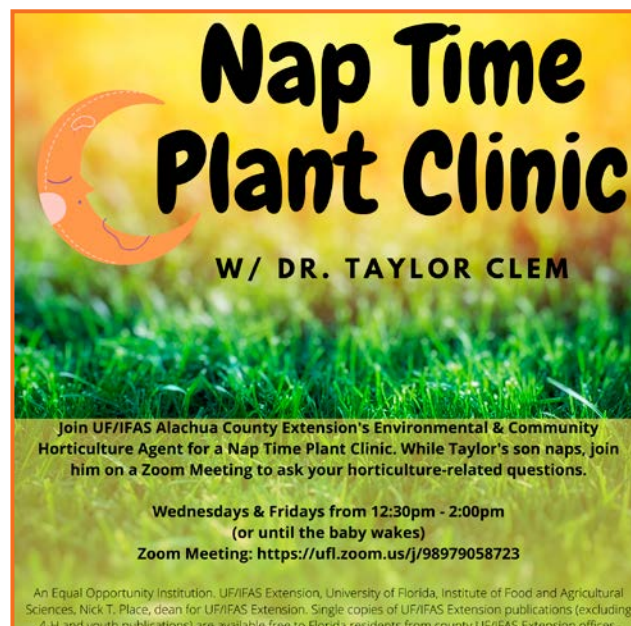
If COVID-19 taught extension agents anything during a period of dishevelment, it is that we are resourceful, adaptable, resilient, and creative. As we juggled our new work/life balance, many of us needed to manage our family and client responsibilities in unique ways. While working at home and caring for a two-year-old, I needed to carve out time to devote to my clientele. To do so, I took advantage of my son's regular nap schedule and created the Nap Time Plant Clinic.

Nap Time Plant Clinic serves as online "office hours," which gives the public an opportunity to sign-in and ask landscape-related questions. Twice a week from 1230pm-2pm or until my son wakes, myself and a Master Gardener Volunteer would join together on Zoom

to provide Help Desk-related feedback to the community and provide UF/IFAS recommendations and resources.

After five weeks, my son began attending daycare again and I began working in the extension office as part of the phased opening for Alachua County. At that time, I thought the plant clinic was no longer needed, so I thought. After the scheduled program ended, emails from the community started requesting the clinic to restart. Therefore, I am now offering Nap Time Plant Clinic, weekly.

Since the program began, Nap Time Plant Clinic has attracted over 100 participants with many repeat clients.



**Nap Time Plant Clinic**

**W/ DR. TAYLOR CLEM**

Join UF/IFAS Alachua County Extension's Environmental & Community Horticulture Agent for a Nap Time Plant Clinic. While Taylor's son naps, join him on a Zoom Meeting to ask your horticulture-related questions.

**Wednesdays & Fridays from 12:30pm - 2:00pm**  
(or until the baby wakes)

**Zoom Meeting: <https://ufl.zoom.us/j/98979058723>**

An Equal Opportunity Institution. UF/IFAS Extension, University of Florida, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, Nick T. Place, dean for UF/IFAS Extension. Single copies of UF/IFAS Extension publications (excluding 4-H and youth publications) are available free to Florida residents from county UF/IFAS Extension offices.

This low-work program has given the community a much-needed resource, improved/maintained community relationships, and allowed for creative work/life balance.

## Master Gardeners Continue Learning Virtually

**Lisa Strange**

UF/IFAS Extension Taylor County  
Ag & Natural Resource Agent  
[lstange@ufl.edu](mailto:lstange@ufl.edu)

One June 25th, I was privileged to have the participation of (7) UF/IFAS Extension Florida Master Gardener Volunteers of Taylor County attend the online Florida Master Gardener Volunteer 2020 Leadership School for those in leadership roles or plan to be for a one day training by Dr. Matt Sowcik; "Leadership Skills to Motivate MGVOrganizations", Ms. Christy Chiarelli; "Crucial Conversations Dealing With Difficult Issues". Laura Greenhaw; "From Me to We: Leading Teams" and Honing Your Listening Skills for Leadership Success",



presented and coordinated by UF/IFAS Extension's State Florida Master Gardener, Wendy Wilbur. Additionally, on June 25- 28th, (7) UF/IFAS Extension Florida Master Gardener Volunteers of Taylor County attended the virtual Virginia Cooperative Extension Master Gardener 2020 College, (4) day concurrent

sessions and Keynote speakers on "Mixed Blessing of Garden Insects", "Social Marketing for Behavior Change", "Innovative Home Composting", "Gardening & Gardeners: Yes We Make a Difference". All attending Master Gardeners followed our strict guidelines of 6ft. social distancing while wearing mask for the events.

## Let's Meet Some Agents: **NEW**

### Heather Janney

UF/IFAS Extension Columbia County  
CED/4-H  
hfutch@ufl.edu



**Tyler Pittman** is the new agriculture agent in Gilchrist County. He formerly was an agriculture and natural resources agent in Marion County before moving to

Gilchrist County. Tyler earned his Bachelor and Master of Science from Clemson University and his Doctorate degree in Biology from the University of Arkansas-Fayetteville. Before coming to Gilchrist county Tyler, served for 4 years as the state upland gamebird research biologist for the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission. In Gilchrist County, Tyler is working with commercial agriculture producers and homeowners to ensure responsible land use decisions. Tyler is married to Alachua County 4-H Agent Amanda Pittman and they have a farm just outside Newberry, FL.



**Stephanie Toelle.** Greetings all, I am excited to have become CED in Duval County after 25 years as an FCS agent here. My background is psychology (BA,

University of Kansas), and family and child development (MS, Auburn University. Since coming to Duval County Extension, my focus has been childcare certification training, parenting and family strengthening, couple relationships, stress management, and work-life issues. Within the past couple of years, I was elected to the Faculty Senate and recognized as a university term professor. I have served on the

UF/IFAS Tenure/Permanent Status & Promotion Committee, Initiative 5: Health and Wellness Leadership Team, action teams for Relationship Education and Mental Health, Extension Program Review teams, and Extension Marketing Committee. I participated in LEAD IFAS, the Leadership Short Course, and just completed AEC6704: Extension Administration and Supervision. I am a past president of FEAFCS and a past recipient of the Wells Fargo Award, Mary Harrison Award, DSA and Continued Excellence awards. I have an unusual distinction of taking three sabbaticals (professional development leave), in which I have studied public relations (2003), educational technology (2012), and work life happiness (2019). I have enjoyed study tours in Hawaii for intergenerational relationships and France for culinary and Mediterranean living. I traveled overseas to support 4-H military partnerships at air bases in England, Germany, and Italy. I have been privileged to experience a lot of what Extension has to offer.

As an incoming CED for Duval County, I am fortunate to follow a master and have been learning all I can. Recent class studies included urban extension, and I am looking forward to using that lens as we refill our agent vacancies and address urban issues, rebuild our overall extension advisory committee, look at models to expand and reach communities that have been underserved, and continue productive relationships with our stakeholders and county partners.

Fun facts about me: I try to practice what I teach, which isn't always easy! Parenting doesn't end with graduations, but I'm proud of my son, Drew, who is married, a new father, and Air Force pilot. Daughter, Courtney, is working on her master's degree in art history/

museum studies at Case Western Reserve. Both were active in 4-H across Duval and St. Johns counties. I expect most know my husband, Andy, is the NE 4-H RSA, so we are among a special group for which Extension is a family business! I continue to perform with the First Coast Wind Symphony as an oboist (music performance was my first major). I had traveled to all 50 states by the time I was 50 years old. I love getting out in nature for hikes and kayaking.



**Greg Hicks** grew up on the family farm in Suwannee County, Florida where they produced hay, grew a variety of row crops, raised beef cattle and raised broilers

for Gold Kist (now named Pilgrim's Pride). Growing up, Greg was active in 4-H and FFA raising and showing cattle and swine in area shows. Upon graduation from high school, he attended Lake City Community College (now named Florida Gateway College) and then the University of Florida where he received a BS and MA in Agriculture.

Greg has spent his entire Extension career in small rural Hamilton County where he has served as the Agriculture/4-H Agent since 1988 and as County Extension Director since 2007. He served as the 4-H Agent from 1990-2006. Greg received the "4-H Rookie of the Year" award in 1993 and has been recognized with numerous awards for excellence in programming by the FAE4-HA, FACAA and NACAA.

Agricultural education, especially with youth, is an area he has promoted over the years. One of his activities, "Hamilton County Youth Agriculture Day", is entering its twenty-fifth year!

*continued on next page*

Let's Meet Some Agents: New...continued from previous page

This annual event is coordinated in co-operation with the Hamilton County Farm Bureau and serves all 4th grade youth in the county. It's a hands-on experience that teaches youth about the importance of agriculture to local and state economies and demonstrates how food and fiber are essential to everyday living. This event has been modeled in

several North Florida counties and has been recognized at the state and national levels.

Greg and his wife (Angela) are the parents of three grown boys and have one granddaughter. All three boys attended college on athletic scholarships (two baseball and one football). The

youngest son is currently serving in the U.S. Army Special Forces.

In his spare time, Greg enjoys being with his family, hunting and working on the family farm. One little known fact is that he can play the trumpet and the drums.

## UF/IFAS EXTENSION Northeast District Offices – Find your local office at <http://solutionsforyourlife.ufl.edu/map/>

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2800 NE 39th Avenue  
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Macclenny, FL 32063  
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### **Bradford**

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Starke, FL 32091  
Phone: 904.966.6224

### **Citrus**

3650 W. Sovereign Path, Suite 1  
Lecanto, FL 34461  
Phone: 352.527.5700

### **Clay**

2463 SR 16 West  
Green Cove Springs, FL 32043  
Phone: 904.284.6355

### **Columbia**

971 West Duval Street, Suite 170  
Lake City, FL 32055  
Phone: 386.752.5384

### **Dixie**

99 NE 121st Street  
Cross City, FL 32628  
Phone: 352.498.1237

### **Duval**

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Jacksonville, FL 32254  
Phone: 904.255.7450

### **Gilchrist**

125 E Wade Street  
Trenton, FL 32693  
Phone: 352.463.3174

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Jasper, FL 32052  
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### **Lafayette**

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Live Oak, FL 32064  
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### **Suwannee Valley Ag. Ext. Center**

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### **Taylor**

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### **Union**

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