A Message from Dr. Andra Johnson

2022 has been a pivotal year—for Florida, UF/IFAS Extension and myself. It was my first full year as Dean for Extension, and as a Floridian. These past months I have been travelling throughout the state, listening to our faculty, staff and stakeholders. So far, I’ve visited 53 of Florida’s 67 counties. I’ve shot skeet in Levy County, toured the shores of Indian River Lagoon, talked with citrus growers in Lake Alfred, enjoyed the local cuisine in St. Augustine, taken a selfie with hundreds of 4-H youth on the steps of the capitol in Tallahassee, ridden an airboat across the Everglades, and many other unforgettable experiences.

I’ve come to love this state for its natural beauty, its diverse cultures, and especially the energy and enthusiasm of the Extension faculty and staff who serve the people of Florida. I could not be working with a better group of people!

2022 was the year we really began emerging out of the COVID-19 pandemic. It has been wonderful to finally see a return to meeting face-to-face and welcoming people to live events. Summer was a real high-point, with the NACAA AMPIC in West Palm Beach in July, followed by 4-H University and the EPAF conference the following month. All of you who organized and participated did a fantastic job pivoting to live events.

Hurricane Ian was Florida’s deadliest natural disaster in 50 years, resulting in 146 deaths and widespread damage to property, agriculture and infrastructure. While the devastation has been heart-breaking, the outpouring of support from people all over the state is truly heartening. Before, during and after the storm, Extension faculty and staff really showed their value as information first-responders, staffing emergency operations centers and evacuation shelters, helping farmers and other businesses assess the damage, and finding the assistance and relief they need to put their lives back together. We will be living with the aftereffects of Ian for a long time, but Extension has proven that we can build a more resilient future.
And throughout the confusion of two major storms, we were still able to round up 13.5 tons of peanut butter to fight hunger in Florida!

Looking ahead to 2023, we will be expanding our efforts to bring health education to more Floridians, particularly in places where basic health care and nutrition are out of reach for many people. We will be sharing new research in artificial intelligence and best management practices to help farmers grow better with less impact on the environment. We will be enhancing 4-H facilities for today’s youth and offering new hands-on programs to help inspire a new generation of leaders and innovators.

I’m very excited about where we’re headed together in making Florida a place where we can grow sustainably and create opportunities for all of us. I am grateful for all the hard work you’ve accomplished in 2022 and I am especially excited to start the new year!

Meet Jackson County’s Cattleman of the Year

J. Scott Angle, Senior Vice President for Agriculture and Natural Resources

If Chanley Carter isn’t the father of the UF/IFAS cattle research station in the Panhandle, he is certainly one of the founders as a then-county commissioner who helped secure funding to build it.

He continues to advocate for improvements to the center, only half-kidding that “I can cover you up in letters” about what the Marianna station of the North Florida Research and Education Center (NFREC) means to a cow man in Jackson County.

Carter was also the 1993 Jackson County Cattleman of the Year, which makes him eligible to nominate others for the award. It’s hard to fathom a more authentic community endorsement than a nomination from a longtime Jackson County Cattlemen’s Association (JCCA) leader and ex-commissioner (“They didn’t run me off; I quit.”).

Carter got to writing one of his letters, this one helping achieve another milestone for the station he helped bring into being. That letter, plus his efforts to “run a spiel to some of my friends who have won (the award)” persuaded those past winners to name a UF/IFAS faculty member at the station the Jackson County cattleman of the year for the first time in NFREC-Marianna’s 22-year history.

Dr. Angela Gonella Diaza has only been in Jackson County for three and a half years. Carter marvels at Gonella’s use of technology to determine the gender of a fetus. It’s an immense contribution to the owner, who can charge a premium to the buyer who needs a heifer to expand his herd or a bull destined for the feedlot, and to the buyer who’s guaranteed to get what they seek.

At ranches in Jackson County and beyond, Gonella applies her expertise with ultrasonography, herd synchronization and the use of genetic biomarkers to identify the most efficient animals. She is one of a new generation of animal scientists who is now applying AI to AI—the use of artificial intelligence to help guide artificial insemination.

In late October, Carter and more than 300 others recognized Gonella with the JCCA’s top honor at its annual banquet. Carter said Gonella has done so much for local cattlemen that “I’ll hail her and put her on a float.”

Gonella didn’t just win for her science. She won because she and her graduate students work as hard on his ranch as they do in her lab. She has never turned down a request, he said, like when he asked her to come to his ranch in late November to help with artificial inseminations.

My thanks to Carter for honoring Gonella and to cattlemen and cattlewomen like him across the state for making their livestock agents and research faculty feel valued as both scientists and as community members.

The old commissioner in Carter also sees Gonella as an asset financed by tax dollars. Her work is the payoff from a community investment in science. “She’s been an advocate for the University of Florida,” Carter said. “She has made y’all proud.”

Indeed she has.
Extension in the News

November
11/1: Orange County hands out thousands of free mosquito traps
11/1: John Woeste, Donald Quincey named to Florida Agricultural Hall of Fame
11/3: CLUE programs win multiple awards at ASHS Conference
11/5: Groundbreaking on TREC’s Pauline Williams student residence facility
11/11: After Ian, Pine Is. producers get Extension services help
11/11: UF/IFAS awarded over $16 million in grants to fight citrus greening
11/21: FAWN expands to some FL state parks
11/29: More migrant farmworker health fairs slated
11/28: Agriculture program connecting SWFL growers with customers

December
12/1: Collier County 4-H agent Tish Roland named Facilitator of the Year by Project Learning Tree
12/2: 2022 Florida 4-H Tailgating Contest Winners (and Recipe Book!)
12/4: Andrew Short to Lead UF entomology and nematology
12/4: Agriculture program teaches children about growing food from the ground up
12/9: SCCAHS receives over $7 million in renewal funding
12/9: Bay County gets $900,000 grant from FWC for more artificial reefs
12/12: Peanut Butter Challenge scoops up 20k jars for FL food pantries
12/13: Wakulla County 4-H Podcast Series Launches
12/19: UF’s Bryan Unruh honored with GCSAA’s President’s Award

Passing of Thomas Hansen Braddock, Jr., Retired Duval County Extension Director

https://www.jacksonville.com/obituaries/pfla03444461

Thomas Hansen Braddock, Jr., age 91 of Fernandina Beach, Florida passed away on October 31, 2022.

Tom served as Florida Cooperative Extension Service Duval County/County Extension Director from 1957 until his retirement in 1995. He continued to manage Beef Cattle and Timber Lands to the present. Tom was an active 4-H Youth Development Director for the Duval County Extension office. He was an avid Gator fan and loved Florida Football.

Tom had many organizational memberships and appointments including: Westside Kiwanis Club for 51 years with perfect attendance, Greater Jacksonville Agricultural Fair Association for 52 years, Duval County Cattlemen’s Association, Duval County Farm Bureau, Florida Forestry Association, Northside Business Leaders Club, University of Florida Alumni Association, Gator Boosters and Bull Gator, Florida Association of County Agricultural Agents, Duval County 4-H Foundation, American Tree Farm System, Florida Agricultural Museum. His accomplishments culminated with his induction into the Florida Agricultural Hall of Fame in 2016.

Funeral services were held on Monday, November 7, 2022 at First Baptist Church, 1600 S. 8th Street, Fernandina Beach, Florida. He was laid to rest in Dyal Cemetery, Live Oak Baptist Church near Callahan, Florida.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donations to the Duval County 4-H Foundation, 1010 N. McDuff Avenue, Jacksonville, Florida, 32254 or the First Baptist Church Building Fund 1600 S. 8th Street, Fernandina Beach, Florida 32034. Please share your memories and condolences at www.oxleyheard.com.

Passing of Robert “Bob” Renner, Retired Marion County 4-H Agent

Chelsea Jones, 4-H EA I, Marion County

The Marion County 4-H Office is deeply saddened to hear about the passing of Mr. Robert “Bob” Renner. Our thoughts and deepest condolences are with his family, friends, and all those who were touched by his life.

Marion County 4-H and Mr. Renner are synonymous with each other as his hard work and dedication touched the lives of thousands of youth. In 1973, Mr. Renner came to work for the Marion County Extension office as a 4-H Agent to give leadership to a county 4-H program with a long history. During his 30 plus years of service the 4-H program saw continued success in establishing new programs. He was instrumental in the development of new hog and lamb shows, plus was a part of the leadership that organized the present day Southeastern Youth Fair.

Through his guidance, 4-H membership in Marion County grew from 105 to 1,200 youth. He has a statewide reputation for developing competitive judging teams. During his 30 years, Marion County had 138 State Winning Judging Teams; 30 National Winning Judging Teams; 418 Demonstration winners at 4-H Congress in Gainesville (now 4-H University), and 131
Marion County 4-H’ers represented Florida in Chicago and Atlanta at National 4-H Congress. At one point, Marion County 4-H won the State 4-H Forestry Contest 27 consecutive years.

Mr. Renner won the Distinguished Service to 4-H Award in 1980, the Distinguished Service Award for Excellence in Extension Education Programs in 1991 by the National Association of County Agricultural Agents, the Epsilon Sigma Phi in 1999, and the National Junior Horticultural Association’s Distinguished Diamond Pin Service Award in 2002.

Mr. Renner was inducted in the Marion County Ag Hall of Fame for all of his work dedication, devotion, and furthermore of the Marion County 4-H Program. In July 2007, he was an inductee into the Florida 4-H Hall of Fame at the University of Florida.

When asked what his greatest honor or award was, he simply said “It wasn’t the awards or honors that meant the most to me, but the accomplishments of the kids”.

A celebration of life will be held Wednesday, January 11, 2023 at 2:00pm at Central Christian Church located at 3010 NE 14th Street in Ocala, FL. The family has asked in lieu of flowers, consider a donation in Bob’s name to Marion County 4-H or St. Jude’s Children’s Hospital.

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**Connect, Grow, Shine: New Award Program for Florida Extension Business Professionals**

*Charlotte Simmons, Director of Admin Services, Extension Administration*

We are excited to share the launch of the Florida Extension Business Professionals Connect, Grow, Shine Awards!

This program is to recognize Florida Extension Business Professionals who contribute outstanding service and fiscal support to UF/IFAS Extension. Awards will be offered for $300 each and awarded through a competitive selection process.

**Eligibility**

Eligible nominees are Florida Extension Business Professionals staff working in a county extension office and engaged in business activities.

Award winners will be announced at the 2023 Florida Extension Business Professionals Conference, February 21-23, in Gainesville, FL.

**Nomination Process**

Complete the attached nomination form and forward it to the Awards Committee Chair, Charlotte Simmons at simmoca@ufl.edu by January 9, 2023

Nominations should be based on outstanding contributions to UF/IFAS Extension during the past County fiscal year (October 1, 2021 – September 30, 2022).

Please note self-nominations are not accepted and volunteers cannot nominate individuals for awards.

**Criteria for Awards**

Nominees shall have accomplished noteworthy performance and have made a positive impact on the overall goals and objectives of the department. The committee will consider the following:

- Excellence in overall job performance
- Outstanding service to staff, faculty, volunteers, and Extension clientele
- Willingness to assist beyond normal expectations
- Dedication to the job and the university
- Significant focus and attention to fiscal responsibility in the workplace to include development and/or compliance with fiscal policies and procedures
- Consistent cooperation and helpfulness
- Initiative and/or creativity in performing assigned duties

Thank you for taking the time to nominate a worthy employee!

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**Upcoming Events**

1/9: 4-H Connections 11 AM
1/10: FCS Connections 10 AM
1/12: South Florida Vegetable Growers Meeting—SWFREC, Immokalee
1/14: Florida Bull Test Sale—NFREC, Marianna
1/16: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service
1/18-19: Advancing Digital Access, (IST 32170)—Ocala
1/19: Citrus Insect, Mite, and Nematode Management Workshop—Citrus REC, Lake Alfred
1/21: Florida’s Arbor Day
1/24: Cattlemen’s Institute and Allied Trade Show—Okeechobee
1/26: Extension Connections 1 PM; Tri-State Fruit & Vegetable Conference—Marianna
1/28: Flatwoods Fire and Nature Festival—UF/IFAS Austin Carey Forest
1/30: Health Extension: A Way Forward webinar with Dr. LaToya O’Neal
Trees, Please!
Marguerite Beckford, CED II, Citrus County

Tree steward programs aim to promote awareness among a general audience of the benefits community trees provide and help to bolster local canopy conservation and expansion efforts. More than 23 states operate statewide urban and community forestry tree steward programs; however, for many years, Florida has not been among them. That is about to change with the establishment this year of the UF/IFAS Urban Forestry Extension Council (UFEC), and its launch of a Florida Tree Steward Program. The UFEC is comprised of members from different stakeholder groups statewide, including urban forestry professionals from various municipalities, companies specializing in arboriculture, the Florida Forest Service, and UF/IFAS researchers and educators.

The UFEC Florida Tree Steward Program curriculum committee convened for a strategic planning meeting on Oct. 27 at the Sumter County Extension office and completed a curriculum first-draft review. Next steps will be to have a final draft of the curriculum reviewed and pilot-tested in several counties, prior to statewide distribution and recruitment of Florida Tree Stewards through Extension offices.

On behalf of Florida’s present and future trees, a huge thank-you goes to Dr. Shirley Baker and Dr. Saqib Mukhtar, whose support gave momentum to the vision of a Florida Tree Steward Program, to UFEC co-chairs Dr. Michael Andreu and Dr. Marguerite Beckford, curriculum subcommittee co-chairs Jamielyn Daugherty, Larry Figart and all the other UFEC members, plus UFEC’s tree-industry sponsors, for their tireless efforts in getting this program off to a great start!

Panhandle Cattlemen’s College
Kalyn Waters, Agriculture CED III, Holmes County

The first Panhandle Cattlemen’s College was developed to meet the needs of cattlemen as they work to improve their reproductive success and expand their knowledge of basic management skills. The event was hosted at the North Florida Research and Education Center in Marianna, October 26-28. The program featured three tracks:

**Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) Training**
Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) is a national program that raises consumer confidence through offering proper management techniques and a commitment to quality within every segment of the beef industry. A BQA certification was offered as a stand-alone program on October 26. Completing this program will result in BQA certification.

**Artificial Insemination Course**
Artificial Insemination is an applied reproductive technology that allows producers to have access to industry-leading genetics and increases their ability to manage the reproductive success of their herd. This was an applied hands-on course that trained participants in all aspects of AI and synchronization. Each day clients spent time on live cows practicing the chute-side AI techniques. The course concluded with the opportunity for participants to receive a certificate of certification for AI.

**Applied Beef Cattle Skills**
The chute-side practicum focused on basic cattle production skills that enhanced producers’ ability to manage their herd by not only learning about production strategies, but also practicing the skills they need to implement them. An array of basic skills was covered, such as cattle handling, pulling...
calves, tubing calves, tagging, castration, dehorning, giving injections, implanting and more. This course was designed for participants who are looking to expand their knowledge of applied management practices and gives them the opportunity to practice these skills on live cattle.

The Panhandle Cattlemen’s College program was presented by a team of agents and staff in the Northwest District, including Kalyn Waters, Dr. Angela Gonelle, Nick Simmons, Kasey Aukema and Daniella Castaneda.

Our key sponsors for this program are Farm Credit of Northwest Florida, QLF with Randy Davis and Brad Carter, and Merck Animal Health with Josh Thomson.

Transforming Your Cattle Herd on a Farm Visit
Lizzie Whitehead, ANR/Livestock EA I, Bradford County

In September 2021, Mr. Terry, one of my cattle producers, approached me wanting to learn more about in vitro fertilization (IVP). He wanted to know how the process works in the cattle industry and how he can use it in his cow herd. He was concerned about making very little profit on the commercial calves that he sells at the market and was trying to find the most economical way to transition his commercial cow herd to a purebred Brahman herd. It is not every day that you get asked about this advanced technological approach on a cattle operation. You might hear about this process with human reproduction, but not as much in the cattle industry. Considering my specialty in beef cattle reproduction, I was excited to inform Mr. Terry about the process and how he can transform his herd with IVP.

I started by educating him on how he can make more profit with his operation through selling the purebred Brahman calves significantly above market price or by retaining the heifer calves instead of purchasing heifers from other breeders. We looked at the different companies that offer in vitro fertilization in the north Florida area. He ended up wanting to try it and took two of his purebred Brahman cows to the facility, where they were able to collect and freeze 10 sexed female embryos. Mr. Terry and his daughter, Maci, wanted to use their purebred Brahman genetics to put in some of their commercial cows to be able to produce more purebred Brahman calves for the next calving season. Over time he wants to transform his commercial cow herd to a purebred herd using top-performing purebred Brahman females that he has purchased from other breeders. This could save him thousands of dollars each year.

Working one-on-one with farmers through farm visits provided a means to use experiential learning methods with Mr. Terry and Maci. I was able to educate and explain to them what a heat synchronization protocol does and how to administer shots, put in controlled internal drug release devices (CIDRs), and put heat patches on their cows. We used heat synchronization protocols in order to get the recipient cows ready for the veterinarian to put in embryos. I created a calendar for when to give the shots and when the veterinarian should be scheduled to come out to put the embryos into the cows. This helped them organize the procedure and see when they need to herd the cows up and put them in the chute. Luckily, we got a 45% conception rate (4 out of 9 cows got pregnant), which is relatively good. I also was able to teach them how to properly tail bleed their cattle to see if their cows were pregnant, using a chute-side at-home pregnancy test.

Mr. Terry and Maci are prime examples of how taking advantage of new technologies and opportunities can guide you toward your goals. This calving season the recipient cows have calved four healthy and thriving purebred Brahman heifers and Mr. Terry said putting their time and money into this new farm practice was worth it. He couldn’t wait to put in more embryos. This was vital to this operation, and I was thrilled that I got to make a long-term impact for Mr. Terry and Maci. My knowledge and experiential learning methods helped my producer gain profits, reach goals and try new technology for their operation!
Broward County Holiday Food and Toy Drive a Big Success!
Brenda Marty Jimenez, Family and Consumer Sciences EA IV, Broward County

UF/IFAS Extension Broward County staff loading up toys and food from donations received for December Toy and Food Drive.

Hollywood FL food bank accepts combined donations from Broward Extension, FLREC and USDA

Giving feels good! Toy and food donations were jointly collected by UF/IFAS Extension Family and Consumer Sciences, the Ft. Lauderdale Research and Education Center and the USDA-ARS Invasive Research Lab. Together we collected 220 brand-new toys that were delivered to the local Mission BBQ location in Davie, FL which were then distributed by the “Toys for Tots” bus. A hefty 550 pounds of non-perishable food was collected and delivered to a local food pantry in Hollywood, aiding 85 Broward County families.

It is wonderful to support our local community members and neighbors in need and make their holidays a little bit brighter. Many individuals cannot get to food donation sites because they have no transportation and are located 2-3 bus stops away from their homes. Many parents and caregivers cannot afford toys for their children due to financial burdens, inflation and/or the economy. Youth and families will benefit greatly from these donations this holiday season.

This really was a collective effort of kindness and giving back, and we are so pleased with the outcome and what we were able to accomplish. We are thankful for all our staff, master gardener volunteers, and other supporters for this impressive collection and expression of giving and generosity.

OU©H! How to Avoid Getting Whacked by Copyright Fees for Images
Darryl Palmer, Public Relations Specialist I, Extension Administration

UF/IFAS was recently hit with copyright infringement fees amounting to $900. The fees involved three photos that were used in blogs posted five years ago. The person who owned the photos used Copytrack, a web-based service that allows people to easily track the use of their photos across the internet and issue fines for copyright infringement.

It’s vitally important to avoid using images without permission. Many times, it’s impossible to tell if anyone owns an image on the internet. But an uncredited photo is like a cupcake left in the break room—tempting, but just because it’s there doesn’t mean you can take it!

Here are some guidelines to help you avoid getting whacked with copyright fees:

• Use your own photos.
• You can use a UF/IFAS colleague’s photos if they took the photos on the job using UF/IFAS equipment (including a personal cell phone).
• If a volunteer took the photo, make sure to get their permission (in writing or by waiver), and credit them (Example: Photo courtesy of Jane Doe).
• Use the IFAS photo database, http://photos.ifas.ufl.edu/ This is a good source of images that can be searched and downloaded. Sign on with your Gatorlink account.
• The Entomology and Nematology Department has a large gallery of insect photos: https://entnemdept.ufl.edu/projex/gallery/

Just make sure to protect our own copyright by crediting these photos to UF/IFAS.

• If you absolutely must use photos from another source, please read IFAS Communications’ photo-use guidelines: https://blogs.ifas.ufl.edu/ifascomm/2021/09/01/photo-usage-guidelines/
• Using copyright-free image sources can be tricky and risky. Be sure to carefully read the use agreements and remember that these sites often share images that are actually copyright protected. It’s a litigious jungle out there—when in doubt, avoid outside image sources.

That said, there are couple of by-request sources we can recommend:

• UF/IFAS Communications has a subscription to Getty Images (https://www.gettyimages.com/landing/pa-preview/expanded/18458) for use by UF/IFAS faculty and staff. You can request a limited number of images by submitting a WorkFront request at https://tinyurl.com/GettyImageRequest and following the instructions on the form.
• Bugwood (https://images.bugwood.org) is a University of Georgia/USDA archive that contains thousands of images of plants, insects, wildlife, invasive species and other subjects. Bugwood has an easy permission request system with clear instructions for use and citation. Just make sure not to crop out the ID numbers in their images.

There is much more to know about this topic, so please reach out to UF/IFAS Communications (https://ics.ifas.ufl.edu/) if you need more resources, guidance or training.

Nine hundred dollars can buy a lot of office supplies, and it’s by no means a heavy settlement. Don’t take risks with copyright infringement. Use UF/IFAS images, or request permission.
Comings & Goings
We would like to welcome the following newly hired and transferring faculty. These individuals were hired following a highly competitive search, screening and selection process. In some cases, candidates interviewed both on the UF campus in Gainesville and in a county Extension office. Selection was often difficult because we typically have two or three suitable candidates. These faculty are truly the best of the best!

**New Hire**
Kara Krueger, EA I, Palm Beach County

**Transfers**
Marguerite Beckford, CED II Citrus County from EA II Charlotte County
Tiare Silvasy, Residential Horticulture EA II Hillsborough County from Orange County

We would like to wish the following administrators and agents the best of luck in their future endeavors.

**Departures**
Michael Gutter, Associate Dean for Extension and Program Leader for 4-H, Families & Communities
Chris Prevatt, Livestock SSA III, RCREC
Sara Murphy, FCS EA I, Seminole County

**Note**
Beginning January 2023, Extension Comings & Goings will shift to a monthly publication distributed via email. Links to archived issues will be available on the [UF/IFAS Extension Administration website](https://uf.ifas.edu/). To submit articles for the newsletter, please use this form: [https://tinyurl.com/CandG-Submission](https://tinyurl.com/CandG-Submission)