

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Extension Helps Young Sweet Potato Entrepreneurs 1

Meet Your Specialist 2

Connections Made at Workshop Land Big Catch for Students 2

A Win on the Waterfront 3

2018 Sunbelt Ag Expo: It takes a State 3

Learning by Doing Isn't Just for 4-H'ers 4

Health Promotion in Communities of Faith...5

FAWN: Weather Data For Growers 5

Mike Goodchild: Keeping Traditions Alive in Walton's Cattle Country 6

Flagler Invasive Plant Workshops Reach Diverse Audiences 7

Comings & Goings 8

New Hires 8

Transfers 8

Retirements 8

Departures 8

UF/IFAS Extension
Comings & Goings
FROM THE OFFICE OF THE DEAN FOR EXTENSION



EXTENSION HELPS YOUNG SWEET POTATO ENTREPRENEURS

Wendy Mussoline, Agriculture EA II, Flagler and Putnam County



Dr. Mussoline teaching Lane and Brett about the nutrition of sweet potato vines and their potential use as animal feed.

Growers in the Tri-County Agricultural Area (TCAA) which includes Putnam, Flagler and St. Johns counties, are certainly familiar with the potato crop with nearly 20,000 acres of cropland devoted to tablestock and chip potatoes. It's no secret, however, that the once-booming potato industry in the TCAA is diminishing because of increased shelf-life of potatoes grown in the Midwest and increasing freight costs for our growers. To increase the economic sustainability and competitiveness of agriculture in the TCAA, the UF/IFAS Hastings Agricultural Extension Center (HAEC) has been conducting numerous research trials on suitable alternative crops. In the past year, HAEC has experimented with artichokes, broccoli, brussels sprouts, cauliflower,

sweet corn and sweet potato. This is the third season that HAEC has conducted fertilizer rate trials on four different cultivars of sweet potatoes.

The sweet potato crop is creeping its way into Putnam County as a rotational crop with potatoes, but these crops are as different as day and night. Sweet potato is in the Convolvulaceae or "Morning Glory" family, whereas the Irish potato is

in the Solanaceae or "Nightshade" family. Sweet potatoes can only be grown in tropical to subtropical regions, and they are planted using slips, or vine cuttings. Irish potatoes are planted using seed potatoes containing "eyes" that develop into a mature plant. Sweet potatoes require about half the nitrogen compared with other potatoes and they have lots to offer in regards to versatility. The starchy root can be used as a nutritious addition to your dinner plate or converted into biofuel (e.g., ethanol) to help power your vehicle. Nearly all of the ethanol generated in the U.S. comes from corn, but sweet potato certainly has great potential to become a biofuel producer for tropical regions such as Florida.



UF/IFAS Extension *Comings and Goings* is a monthly newsletter distributed by the Office of the Dean for Extension via e-mail and on the UF/IFAS 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 Valkyrie Aldrnari. Please feel free to also forward any questions or comments about this periodical to Valkyrie Aldrnari at valkyriea@ufl.edu.



Brett Singleton and UF/IFAS Extension planting sweet potato slips with mechanical planter.

This year, UF/IFAS Extension assisted Lane (age 15) and Brett (age 12) Singleton with planting two acres of sweet potatoes for the Putnam County Farm-to-School program. These boys have been farming since they could walk, and their parents, April and Steve Singleton, think it is time for them the launch out into their own business ventures. Todd Crowley, Putnam Farm-to-School coordinator, is passionate about getting healthier foods into the school cafeterias and will do just about anything to make it happen. He drives a delivery van around to local farmers and procures fresh produce for our Putnam County school kids to ensure they are eating healthy, local and fresh foods. Todd is especially excited about procuring sweet potatoes from Lane

and Brett's business, L&B Produce (a subsidiary of Singleton & Sons Farms), since these are farms kids growing food for their peers. UF/IFAS Extension Putnam County and Hastings Agricultural Extension Center helped get this project moving by providing the training, labor, support, education, equipment, fumigants and plant

material for the Singleton sweet potato plots. This has been a team-oriented project, requiring time and expertise from diverse UF/IFAS faculty and staff, as well as a cooperative attitude and hard work from the Singleton family.

The dominant cultivar is a unique purple-flesh sweet potato variety that was bred by Dr. Janice Bohac of Charleston, South Carolina. Dr. Bohac shared her special sweet potato breeding lines with these boys so they will harvest approximately 15 different cultivars that will produce a colorful variety of white, yellow, orange and purple-flesh sweet potatoes. This will hopefully be a nutritious and desirable addition to the school lunch plates come Thanksgiving.

CONNECTIONS MADE AT WORKSHOP LAND BIG CATCH FOR STUDENTS

Sarah M. Ellis, Family and Consumer Sciences EA I, Citrus County

Extension agents generally focus on how to increase knowledge to help create change. But sometimes, simply making connections may be a catalyst for change.

Since 2014, UF/IFAS Extension Citrus County has partnered with the Marine Science Station (MSS) to offer an annual "For-Hire" Fishing workshop. The workshops, created to assist both new and seasoned charter captains and fishing guides, are designed to provide education on topics including business strategies and fishery management, and have been very well attended over the years.

The Marine Science Station, located in Crystal River, is an educational facility for Citrus County schools. If you didn't grow up and go to school in Citrus County, you might not know about this great facility. It is the perfect location to hold a fishing workshop: the campus is a 15-acre coastal hammock and saltmarsh on the Salt River. The mission of MSS is to increase student environmental literacy

MEET YOUR SPECIALIST

Lauren Diepenbrock, assistant professor, Citrus REC - Lake Alfred, Entomology



My name is Lauren Diepenbrock. I came to the University of Florida from Raleigh, North Carolina, where I was a postdoc for four years doing research to develop integrated pest management practices (IPM) for spotted wing drosophila in berry crops. I received my PhD from the University of Missouri in plant, insect and microbial sciences (entomology emphasis) with a graduate certificate in conservation biology. My specialties are insect ecology, insect behavior, integrated pest management, and I also take special interest in conservation and science policy.

I am originally from Florida and spent most of my childhood in Palm Bay, so moving to Florida to work at the CREC is kind of like coming home. Most of my family is still here and I'm enjoying getting to see many of them for the first time in a decade or more. Outside of work, my husband and I are owned by two cats and have been enjoying exploring the state parks.



Stacy Horak with a redfish

through hands-on lab and field-based experiences. Each summer the facility hosts Coastal Camp Citrus, a week-long residential camp for middle and high school students. Due to the fact that a large number of students lack the financial means to attend the camp, MSS takes donations to offer scholarships.

Captain Stacy Horak attended her first “For-Hire” Fishing workshop in 2017. At the time she was an aspiring captain working towards getting her captain’s license. This industry can be very difficult, especially for a woman. However, Stacy made some important connections through the workshop, and learned about marketing and promoting her business.

Over the past two years Captain Stacy has accomplished a lot. In 2017 she organized her first annual redfish tournament, earned her captain credentials in October, and started chartering fishing trips. Captains and guides that she met at the first workshop have since offered assistance and help when needed. Captain Stacy was also so impressed with MSS and their mission that she felt compelled to help send kids to camp. The proceeds from the fishing tournaments are donated to the MSS for scholarships. Approximately \$3000.00 has been raised over the past 2 years to help send impoverished kids to camp. That’s 10 kids who get to experience a once-in-a-lifetime summer camp!

A WIN ON THE WATERFRONT

Savanna Barry, Coastal Ecosystems RSA

Lately there has been a lot of buzz about plastic trash in the ocean, especially straws, stirrers, and other food-related wrappers and boxes. Globally, plastic debris are by far the most common types of trash collected along shorelines. Plastics never biodegrade and pose many threats to wildlife and perhaps even humans.

In Cedar Key, UF/IFAS Extension has teamed up with local Audubon members and Florida Master Naturalists to address the issue locally. Many are familiar with Cedar Key’s bank of restaurants along Dock Street – busy establishments on stilts that jut out into the water, creating a high risk of straws and other plastics entering the water. We used a targeted “Skip the Straw” campaign that combined direct mailings and calls to restaurant managers with cards that stated their individual preference for no straws.

Early results are encouraging, with four restaurants and one coffee shop getting on board. Some restaurants have gone totally plastic-free, eliminating Styrofoam to-go containers as well as straws, while others have simply stopped serving straws unless consumers request them. When a customer asked about the issue, a local server replied “Well, you see, straws and plastic are harmful to birds, sea turtles and other critters if they get into the water. We are right on the water, so you can see the problem.” She said, “We have really only had one person get upset, most people love the idea.”

Estimates available from [Project Azul Verde](#) indicate that each restaurant could save \$725 per year and eliminate 60 pounds of plastic waste by skipping just 300 straws per day. While it’s only a small start toward addressing the global plastic waste problem, awareness is generated by the eco-friendly switch in the food industry. This increased awareness about plastic debris can be expected to carry over into other types of plastic and other facets of consumers’ lives.

2018 SUNBELT AG EXPO: IT TAKES A STATE

Libbie Johnson, Agriculture EA II, Escambia County



Danielle Sprague (Jefferson County Ag Agent) talks about the finer points of insects with a young visitor.

Less than a week after Hurricane Michael crashed through the Florida panhandle, Southwest Georgia, and the Alabama wiregrass region, the 2018 Sunbelt Ag Expo was set to take place in Moultrie, Georgia. Many of the county Extension faculty in the affected counties weren’t able to participate due to damage caused by the hurricane. But thanks to the family spirit of UF/IFAS Extension, our pavilion on the fairgrounds was fully functional with interactive

educational displays led by county Extension faculty, university staff, volunteers, 4-H’ers, CALS students, administrators, potential Extension employees and even one former UF/IFAS employee, Blake Thaxton.

None of this would’ve been possible without many people stepping up from throughout the state to work the different sections. Charlotte Emerson was the glue that held “the barn” together—her years of experience made her the “go-to” person. If you see her, ask to see pictures of an item on her bucket list that came true at Sunbelt—she was able to go for a ride in the hot air balloon that carries the flag across the fairgrounds.



Wayne Hobbs loves offering Florida grown and Florida squeezed juice to all of the visitors.



Northeast agents and DED share info about plant identification.

Special thanks to those who were with us from set-up to breakdown: Danielle Sprague (Jefferson), Samantha Kennedy (Wakulla), Caitlin Bainum (Marion), and Jane Griffin (Suwannee). We cannot express our appreciation enough to the county Extension faculty and others who came from near and far to Sunbelt Ag Expo. We welcome more participation from throughout the state in the future.

LEARNING BY DOING ISN'T JUST FOR 4-H'ERS

Carolyn Saft, Horticulture EA II, Suwannee County



Jerry, a Suwannee County Master Gardener volunteer, shows his oyster yield to a class.

Jerry is a Suwannee County Master Gardener volunteer who loves mushrooms. After graduation, he volunteered to help with the mushroom workshops offered by Carolyn

Saft, Suwannee County horticulture agent. "My wife and I are trying to eat healthier and I am getting tired of eating so much chicken," he told Saft. Jerry heard that mushrooms were a good source of protein, but fresh shiitake or oyster mushrooms were hard to find in rural Suwannee County, and when he was able to find them, they were expensive.

On the day of his first mushroom workshop, Jerry arrived early so he could help with setup and learn production techniques. He took notes, read the resource materials provided at the class, and participated in inoculating two bags of wheat straw with oyster mushroom spawn. Following the guidelines he learned in class, Jerry force-fruited his oyster mushroom bags in 7 weeks. He reported that his first flush yielded over a pound from just one bag.

Jerry calculated that he produced almost 6 pounds, or \$60 worth of mushrooms, between the two bags. "I love the taste of oyster mushrooms!" Jerry said. "Growing them myself would be financially feasible, since I can grow 100 bags of mushrooms producing around 300 pounds for about the same cost of five pounds at retail prices."

Jerry purchased the materials needed and has been producing his own mushrooms for three years. He and his wife are eating at home more often, which saves them money and provides healthier meals. He also shares the extra yields with friends, family and neighbors. His brother was so excited about eating and growing oyster mushrooms that he invited Jerry to South Carolina to teach a workshop for his friends and co-workers. After the workshop, he reported that all eight people were able to successfully produce oyster mushrooms. The traditional Extension techniques of learning by doing and training the trainer has resulted in Jerry teaching others about the health benefits and production of mushrooms.

HEALTH PROMOTION IN COMMUNITIES OF FAITH

Kim Griffin, FCS EA II, Suwannee County



Ms. Yvonne Scott, Faithful Families' lay health leader.



African American Development Council Annual Scholarship Banquet, 2018

According to the CDC, more than 46 million Americans (about 15 percent of the U.S. population) live in rural areas. Due to the characteristics of life in rural areas, residents tend to have higher rates of chronic disease compared to non-rural residents. Suwannee County is no exception: According to the 2018 County Health Rankings Report, which measures the current overall health of each county, Suwannee County ranked 55th out of 67 Florida counties.

In an effort to encourage rural residents to increase healthy behaviors, UF/IFAS Extension Suwannee County has partnered with a local faith community to provide the Faithful Families Eating Smart and Moving More program. This health promotion intervention promotes healthy eating, physical activity and environmental changes while encouraging participants to make the connection between health and faith.

The successful implementation of the Faithful Families program required the designation of a lay health leader to promote the program. Ms. Yvonne Scott, a well-known community altruist, was selected for this position. During the course of the program, Ms. Scott repeatedly commented on

her knowledge gain from the weekly sessions. Class subject matter included choosing more fruits and vegetables, moving more throughout the day and making smart drink choices among others.

Ms. Scott has served as the president of the African American Development Council (AADC) for the past 16 years. This council supports many community initiatives, including the Annual AADC Scholarship Banquet. The 2018 AADC provided \$22,000 in scholarships and hosted approximately 75 guests. During the course of the event, Ms. Scott informed the audience of her latest endeavour, the Faithful Families Eating

Smart and Moving More program. She proceeded to comment on the impact the program had on the faith community, and the difference it made in her own life. "Since starting the AADC Scholarship Banquet in 2002, we have served refreshments that may not have been the healthiest," she said. "But because of the Faithful Families program, we now have healthier options. Please enjoy the dried fruits, assorted nuts and bottled water that have been provided for you."

Through Ms. Scott's involvement with the Faithful Families Eating Smart and Moving More program, she has gained knowledge, skills and abilities to make smart eating choices and is willing to share this information with Suwannee County residents.

Data from a 2015 study in North Carolina show that 86% of participants made positive changes in at least one nutrition practice and 83% of participants made positive changes in at least one food resource management practice because of the Faithful Families program. Faith-based health promotion, as a means of reaching health vulnerable populations in rural areas, shows continued success.

FAWN: WEATHER DATA FOR GROWERS

Jack Payne, @JackPayneIFAS

Twenty years ago, the Florida Automated Weather Network launched on the premise that weather information from the airport isn't enough for those in distant rural areas whose livelihoods depend on dew points and wind speed.

University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences Extension has long recognized that perhaps no one relies on this information more than farmers do. So UF/IFAS Extension

brought weather stations closer to the farm.

Today Extension has 42 weather stations on public lands in rural areas to take the temperature of your region.

Then, Extension brought the weather stations right onto your farms. In the past five years, Extension has installed 200 weather stations on private farms, ranches, and groves. That means we can give you readings on rainfall in your neighborhood.

For example, there's one on the Florida Strawberry Growers Association farm in Dover, which serves as a research and demonstration farm for UF/IFAS strawberry scientists.

We don't do this alone. In addition to station hosts such as the FSGA, the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the state's water management districts partner with us. The Farm Bureau has been a valued past financial supporter



Lee Staudt checks a FAWN monitoring station in this 2005 UF/IFAS photo.

and continues to testify to FAWN's importance when it's time to renew state funding.

We're looking ahead to the prospect of delivering data so local that you can consider your farm its own microclimate. UF/IFAS forecasts that someday your smartphone will essentially give you a weather map of the row you're working.

The technological challenge is how to harness the growing mountain of data. FAWN measures dozens of weather indicators every 15 minutes 24/7. We'll need to combine the right pieces of that data with information from other sources such as the National Weather Service to make FAWN even more useful.

Fortunately, that's just what UF/IFAS research and Extension do. We deliver discovery to you in usable form. Kati Migliaccio, the new chair of the UF/IFAS Department of Agricultural and Biological Engineering, uses FAWN data to drive the phone apps she developed to help producers of avocados, citrus, cotton, strawberries and turf decide when and how much to irrigate.

Before a forecasted freeze, citrus agent Chris Oswalt makes the rounds collecting leaves from groves and feeding the info into FAWN to help growers make freeze protection decisions. Natalia Peres and Clyde Fraisse use FAWN temperature, relative humidity, rainfall, wind speed and solar radiation data to estimate the risk of strawberry disease and inform growers on the need to spray fungicide for protecting their crops.

The information can be just as valuable after the fact. We had a spike in FAWN use after Hurricane Irma as producers sought to document for relief agencies just what had hit their crops those fateful few days last September.

We've come around to hurricane season again, when everyone, not just farmers, pays a little more attention to the weather. FAWN pays attention all year. Individual agents occasionally go on vacation, but Extension never does.

The future of FAWN includes other parts of UF, not just IFAS, gleaming useful grower data. For example, the Emerging Pathogens Institute may use FAWN data to determine how to limit your employees' vulnerability to heat stress, a huge challenge in a climate like ours.

Extension brings UF to you. Usually it's IFAS that has your solutions, but Extension finds what you need among UF's 16 colleges and thousands of faculty members.

The spread of UF/IFAS FAWN stations means you can carry us around with you in your hip pocket. Extension meets you where you are. If you're like most people, that's increasingly in your smartphone. It's part of our 24/7 commitment to production agriculture.

MIKE GOODCHILD: KEEPING TRADITIONS ALIVE IN WALTON'S CATTLE COUNTRY

Jack Payne, @JackPayneIFAS



County Extension Director Mike Goodchild, right, at a cattle station in Walton County.

If you have ten animals, you're a cattleman or cattlegirl. If you have enough of those small producers, you have a cattle community.

Putting a few more bucks in the pockets of producers may be just enough to allow a community to make a living off the land. That allows for a way of living on the land among animals wild and domestic, open pastures, sheltering woods, and ranches instead of clusters of ranch-style homes.

That's my take on Mike Goodchild's philosophy as he strives to keep Walton County part of cattle country. The Florida Cattlemen's Association and the University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences rely on leaders like Mike to preserve our diminishing green spaces and our communities of ranchers.

Part of what makes Mike successful is the experience and knowledge he brings to his work as the UF/IFAS Walton County Extension director and forestry/livestock agent.

An important part of his job is to bring new ideas to cattlemen. Innovation, after all, is essential to preserving traditions like cattle ranching.

But innovation is risky. Mike recognizes that he needs more than book learning to serve as a credible source of information. That's why he has long been an FCA member and active participant in the Walton County Cattlemen's Association. Once his day job is done he runs his own modest herd on nights and weekends.

One new idea Mike has helped introduce to local cattlemen is the establishment of a cattle buying station near Gaskin, in north Walton County. It wasn't Mike's idea. A Texas oil and gas man owns some land in Walton County and wanted to simultaneously pursue profit by feeding cattle and preservation by keeping land in production.

Mike saw a chance for the locals to make money through the station. The idea is that small producers could sell their animals at the local station instead of at a distant sale barn. This saves them on the commissions they pay by selling their cattle the old way, and the expense of hauling their animals to out-of-county points of sale.

The majority of Walton County cattle producers have given the new cattle station a try. Mike estimates that in the first six months of the station's operation, local cattlemen saved about \$50 per head and about \$50,000 as a community.

At the same time, Mike has been working with the manager of the cattle station, Henry Hodges, to introduce silvopasture to the ranch. That involves thinning pine plantations to develop grazing lands without clear-cutting the property. Woods and cows co-exist.

The shade is shelter for the cows, which reduces heat stress, fosters fertility and improves weight gains. Animal waste provides organic fertilizer for faster tree growth. The trees contribute both to the area's natural beauty and its environmental health by reducing soil erosion and sequestering carbon.

Working with the ranch manager, Mike has helped open up the ranch for neighbors to get a look through field days and other events at which cattlemen can see a demonstration. Again, it's a way Mike goes beyond book learning and book teaching.

Cattle buying stations and silvopasture aren't all over the state because the old ways of cattle ranching have worked. But as times change and economic forces shift, the old ways may not work quite the same way they did in the past.

New ideas like the ones Mike promotes can bring just enough change. He's not seeking to overturn tradition but to keep a traditional business alive.

Mike represents the combination of knowledge as reported in academic journals with a deep understanding of conditions in the real world and the relationships that make UF/IFAS a trusted source of information.

UF/IFAS livestock agent bonds with FCA members are themselves a long tradition in Florida. It's the way we share the new ideas for keeping alive the tradition of making a living off the land.

FLAGLER INVASIVE PLANT WORKSHOPS REACH DIVERSE AUDIENCES

Sol Looker, Residential Horticulture EA I, Flagler County



Air potato leaf

On October 23 - 24, UF/IFAS Extension Flagler County Extension hosted 27 land managers and 35 Flagler County residents at two Invasive Plant Clinics. Invasive species often displace native species and cause reduction in biodiversity. These invaders disrupt the intricate balance between plants, animals and important natural processes such as water flow and wildfires. According to the Army Corps of Engineers, invasive species are the second leading threat to imperiled species right behind habitat destruction. Economic loss in the U.S. from invasive species is estimated to be \$138 billion per year. Some invasive plants also pose a risk to grazing animals. In 2014 several horses died in Volusia County due to suspected ingestion of creeping indigo, and in 2015 the plant was discovered to be growing abundantly in Flagler County.

As a result of the need for new information to aid in identification and control of invasive plants, the invasive plant clinics were developed to serve a wide audience with differing invasive plant management needs. Participants were able to learn the most current information from local and state experts on how to recognize and control invasive plant species that are negatively affecting the county's environment and threatening grazing pasture animals' health.

The first day of the clinic was geared toward land managers and private pasture owners. Continuing education units (CEUs) were offered in multiple restricted use and limited certification pesticide applicator licensing categories, ranging from aquatic weed applicators to rights-of-way applicators. The free event successfully attracted a wide variety

of participants, including City of Palm Coast Employees, Flagler County Employees, the Department of Environmental Protection, the Florida Forest Service, State Park Employees, and private land owners with pasture.

This workshop lasted 3.5 hours and was taught by horticulture agent Sol Looker with the assistance of Dr. Stephen Enloe, Associate Professor, UF/IFAS Center for Invasive Aquatic Plants, and Ed Jennings, UF/IFAS Livestock Agent, County Extension Director, Levy County. Sol focused on identification of the primary invasive plants threatening the area and Dr. Enloe concentrated on the latest control measures for each of the plants discussed. Ed Jennings discussed creeping indigo identification and toxicity and implications of other invasive plants (Chinese tallow, lantana) that were discussed earlier in the day and also have pasture toxicity concerns including tallow and lantana.

The second day was aimed towards homeowners. Some of the same plant material and supplies were leveraged to serve this different audience. The

workshop was shortened to 1 ½ hours and taught solely by Sol Looker. The plant list was slightly modified to focus on plants that are more commonly an issue in residential areas. This included some that can be purchased at local box stores and nurseries.

Both workshops included lecture, hands-on identification techniques with fresh plant samples, a portable take-home laminated ID deck with all of the featured plants in color for each participant, and group discussion with real-life examples.

The short-term impacts of the workshop were that land managers were able to learn new control techniques and refresh their skills identifying ten invasive plants. After the workshop, 85 percent of land manager attendees were able to correctly identify at least seven out of the ten invasive plants in a collection of fresh plant samples. Eleven of the 27 in attendance received Continuing Education Units to help renew their Restricted Use Pesticide licensing, which has been shown to increase

employee marketability, earning potential, and upward mobility. Of the 35 residents that attended the invasive plant workshop, 24 participated in a post class identification test, 100% of whom were able to identify 8 of the 11 invasive plants. Of the 24 that took the test, 21 made a pledge to use what they learned to recognize and control invasive plants on their private properties. The 21 participants who made the pledge also supplied their email addresses for future surveys that will be conducted in six months and a year to determine if changes in behavior were made.

Based on participation numbers, positive feedback from participants and discussion with the Flagler County land manager supervisor and public works supervisor, this workshop will be repeated on a six month interval to help provide critical training to both land managers and area residents. The email list obtained from residents participating in the second workshop should prove valuable in collecting behavior change information in the near future.

COMINGS & GOINGS

We would like to welcome the following new 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 new faculty are truly the best of the best!

NEW HIRES

Olivia Zugay, 4-H EA I, Marion County

Elizabeth Moore, 4-H EA I, Madison County

Logan Boatwright, Comm/Environmental Horticulture EA I, Jackson County

Karla Hernandez Valentin, Ag/Livestock CED II, DeSoto County

Shayla Reighter, 4-H EA I, Pasco County

Matthew Olson, 4-H EA I, Clay County

Jay Cappasso, Agriculture EA I, Columbia County

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

TRANSFERS

Alicia Halbritter, Ag/Natural Resources EA I, Baker County from Duval County

RETIREMENTS

Nichelle Demorest, Horticulture EA III, Columbia County

Terry DelValle, Horticulture EA IV, Duval County

Clay Olson, Agriculture CED IV, Taylor County

DEPARTURES

Martha Glenn, Com Horticulture EA I, Manatee County

Fitzroy Beckford, Ag/Natural Resources CED III, Lee County

Kelly Greer, FFL EA II, Orange County