

Extension Comings and Goings
From the Office of the Dean for Extension
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Streaming Presentation by Senior Vice President Jimmy G. Cheek

This edition's streaming presentation is presented by Senior Vice President Jimmy G. Cheek. Viewing the presentation requires the Microsoft Explorer browser, Windows Media Player 9 and a relatively fast Internet connection. However for those using dial-up access, a modem version is also supplied, which plays an audio version of his presentation.

[Extension Comings and Goings - April -Senior Vice President Jimmy Cheek's IFAS Budget Update](#) (DSL or High Bandwidth Access)

<http://streaming.video.ufl.edu/~icsvideo/ComingsGoingsApr08.asx>

[Audio Version - Senior Vice President Jimmy Cheek's IFAS Budget Update](#) (Modem or Dial-up access)

http://streaming.video.ufl.edu/~icsvideo/ComingsGoingsApr08_audio.asx

Flash Video version

If you have Flash Player 8 or higher installed on your computer, you can view the presentation using Flash. This is the same streaming technology being used on the Solutions for Your Life web site: http://training.ifas.ufl.edu/comingsgoingsflash/comings_goings_apr08.html

Meet Your Specialist - Wendy Dahl



Wendy Dahl, Ph.D. RD FDC ([photo](#))
University of Florida - Food Science and Human Nutrition
Email: wdahl@ufl.edu Tel: (352)392-1991 ext 224

Wendy Dahl came to the University of Florida from the University of Saskatchewan and the Saskatoon Health Region, Canada, where she was an Adjunct Professor in the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition and Dietetic Internship Director. Her specialties are dietetic education, dietary fiber, texture-modified diets, elder nutrition, and she also takes special interest in prebiotics and GI disease. In 2005, she received her doctorate degree in Nutrition from the University of Saskatchewan.

"Prior to my academic career, I worked as a dietitian and a teacher, and thus have developed a keen interest in Extension. I am looking forward to developing many partnerships and collaborations. I have a teenager and a ten year old and we are enjoying our new home in Gainesville. What a warm and friendly place!"



Dr. Bill Giuliano Recognized as TWS Fellow ([photo](#))- Dr. Bill Giuliano has been chosen to be a TWS Fellow, and will be formally recognized at the Awards Ceremony for The Wildlife Society at their national annual meeting in November this year. Each year, a small number of wildlife professionals from across the country are selected as TWS Fellows by The Wildlife Society, the professional society of wildlife professionals, in recognition of outstanding service to the wildlife profession. This national recognition for Dr. Giuliano's service is well deserved, and is a tribute both to him and the University of Florida.

2008 National Extension Diversity Award - The National Extension Diversity Committee is announcing the 2008 National Extension Diversity Award call for nominations. The attached brochure has all the details. Note that ECOP has approved a cash award to accompany this recognition at the NASULGC Annual Meeting, November 9-11, 2008, in Chicago. For more information, please view the brochure:

http://extadmin.ifas.ufl.edu/comings_and_goings/2008DivAwardBrochure.pdf

New Water Conservation Media Campaign Kit- The UF/IFAS Center for Landscape Conservation and Ecology has developed a new online media campaign kit about water conservation for county agents and others to use.

The kit is available at <http://gardeningsolutions.ifas.ufl.edu/water>. All materials have been reviewed and approved by UF/IFAS Extension state specialists and Florida water management districts.

The kit contains Web articles, radio PSAs, newspaper ads, tips for dealing with the media, and links to lots of other water conservation resources. It covers water shortages, drought conditions, and plain old money-saving. Remember, conservation is just as important in areas where there isn't a drought!

If you have any questions about the materials or how to use them, please contact Emily Eubanks, eee@ufl.edu or (352) 392-1831 ext. 246.

"Gardening in a Minute" wins 3 ACE Awards - "[Gardening in a Minute](#)," Extension's gardening radio program, has received three 2008 awards from [ACE](#), the national Extension communications organization.

The awards are: a silver award for programming; a bronze award for promotional publications, for the show's press kit; and a bronze for Web sites. These are not the first awards for the show and Web site. "Gardening in a Minute" has already accumulated six other national awards.

"Gardening in a Minute" is funded by the Center for Landscape Conservation and Ecology.

The Bay You Save May be Your Own: Community Partnerships Address Water Quality Protection in Collier County - The City of Naples passed a resolution to help protect water quality in Naples Bay. The resolution mandated training of landscape maintenance technicians applying fertilizer and pesticides. In response to this concern, Green Industry Landscape Best Management Practices (BMP) Certification Classes were implemented. Working with an ad hoc committee, a local group called Project Greenscapes, a curriculum was developed for the City of Naples. The class covers: turf management, plant selection and fertilizing, pest management, pesticide safety, local estuary characteristics, etc.). In 2007 through January 2008, there was a grand total of 332 participants in 11 classes. Eighty-nine percent (89%) of the students passed the certification test at the end of the six hour class. The average on the pre-class test was 55%. The post-class test average was 83%. [Contact: Doug Caldwell]

"Make Mine WHITE Milk!" - The new mantra of local elementary school students after several visits from the Family Nutrition Program - Program Assistant. Going from table-to-table in the school cafeteria during lunch, the assistant played the "Healthy Choices Game." The children (689) were quizzed on what were good, better and best choices on their trays. By the end of the week, the cafeteria manager was running across the street to the middle school to trade cases of the less popular chocolate milk for the new favorite = low-fat WHITE! By making the change, the children were able to reduce sugar (4 teaspoons added sugar per serving) in their diet. [Contact: Betsy Crisp]

4-H I.G.O.T.I.T. Club Members Speak Up! Youth in the Florence Villa community of Winter Haven, Florida face violence (in the community-at-large and inside the home), incarceration of family members, open drug abuse and distribution, teen pregnancy and poverty. The 4-H I.G.O.T.I.T. club, funded by Children, Youth and Families At-Risk (CYFAR),

serves children in grades 2-5. The youth attend for three hours per day, Monday through Thursday, and have homework time, life skills lesson time (using 4-H curriculum), and recreation. A March 2008 survey of members (third through fifth graders) has provided some insight into the program's impact. In response to the question "How has this program helped you in school," responses included:

- "It helped me with my homework"
- "This program has helped me be better in reading"
- "By helping me read books"
- "Math and reading"

When asked "How has this program helped you with your family," responses included:

- "A lot; respecting others and stuff like that"
- "By giving them information"
- "Making healthy nutritional [choices]"
- "It helps me because I give respect to [my] mom"

Research indicates that children in programs such as 4-H that build strong home-school-community connections, engage youth in the learning process, and help cultivate positive relationships are less likely to participate in risky behaviors such as truancy, drug abuse, early sexual activity and violence. UF/IFAS Family, Youth and Community Sciences faculty members Dr. Rose Barnett, Dr. Jerry Culen and grant coordinator Kate Fletcher will present all findings at the upcoming CYFAR conference in May 2008. [Contact: Nicole Walker]

Business Opportunities - Check Extension! - Sarasota County Agriculture Extension agent has established a partnership with the Crowley Museum and Nature Center in Sarasota County for a training center in diversified small farming. The first partnership project is the installation of a 0.5 acre organic muscadine grape vineyard that features 8 varieties, including two major varieties for wine and six for fresh market. This vineyard is a collaboration with the Florida A & M University Center for Viticultural Sciences and Small Fruit Research. In addition, support is provided by the Rosa Fiorelli Winery in Manatee County as a representative of the Florida Grape Growers Association. The vineyard is part of the UF/IFAS Small Farms and Alternative Enterprise Program to educate regional small farmers and the community about sustainable agriculture practices and opportunities. Upcoming projects will demonstrate the capability to diversify the area planted with grapes to produce additional multiple crops (such as winter vegetables and Florida native wildflower seeds) which can result in a higher revenue per acre income for small farmers. This partnership effort helps the Crowley Museum and Nature Center fulfill the educational mission of its founder, Jasper Crowley, an agriculture teacher and founder of the FFA in Sarasota County, and provides an accessible location to local growers. [Contact: Robert Kluson]

Charting the Course to Green: Pasco Strives for Sustainability - Pasco County registered over 200 community leaders, developers, and residents, interested in water and energy conservation, for a half-day Green Building Workshop in March., The goal was to increase the sustainability of communities and natural resources by raising awareness of Green Building

certification for new construction or retrofitted existing facilities. One builder proclaimed that "Green home building is at a tipping point" with customers. Workshop information confirmed that "eco-friendly" can be profitable as more than a half dozen, upscale "Green" communities are being built in the County. One participant indicated that he would bring his light manufacturing plant to Pasco because of the vision demonstrated at this event. Along with Progress Energy and the Southwest Florida Water Management District, builders, developers and associated contractors sponsored this event in partnership with the County and Cooperative Extension. [Contact: BJ Jarvis]

4 H Technology Team Success Story - 4-H has never had pages on the website designated exclusively for teens. 4-H also recognized the need to increase the use of technology in all of their programs. In 2007, 4-H Youth Development formed the 4-H Technology Team, a new club composed of eight high school youth interested in technology. Throughout the year, these members made great strides in incorporating technology into 4-H. A significant accomplishment of the 4-H Tech Team was the creation of a website especially for teens. The site includes information about volunteer opportunities, grants, and the latest news in 4-H. Other features include movie reviews, 4-H teen profiles, and sports articles written by 4-H youth. In addition to the creation of this innovative website, the 4-H Technology Team has also developed web guidelines for any club interested in creating their own website including a step by step set of instructions on how to create a website. [Contact: Eric Yuan]

New Faculty - Please welcome the following new faculty:

Nola Wilson, Small Farm/4-H Extension Agent I, Marion County, 3/21/2008

Elena Toro, Ag/Nat Resources Extension Agent I, Suwannee County, 4/18/2008

Erin Eckhardt, Commercial Horticulture Extension Agent I, Duval County, 4/18/2008

Dezhi David Sui, Vegetable Crop Extension Agent II, Palm Beach County, 4/18/2008

Jason Osborne, Tropical Fruits, M/C Extension Agent II, Miami-Dade County, 4/21/2008

Crystal Snodgrass, Ag & Nat Res Extension Agent I, Manatee County, 4/21/2008

Rebecca Harris, 4-H Youth Dev Extension Agent II, Orange County, 4/21/2008

Brian Estevez, 4-H Youth Dev Extension Agent I, Suwannee County, 5/16/2008

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

Laura Selman, Northwest District, Office Assistant, 04/08/08

Laura Miller, Hillsborough County, Environmental Horticulture Extension Agent II, 04/17/08

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