



Comings & Goings

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE DEAN FOR EXTENSION

July 2013

Dean's Notes and Quotes

2013 EPAF Conference

Our annual conference is just around the corner. We have an outstanding program planned for both Agents and Specialists, and I look forward to seeing everyone there. If you haven't registered or made your IST selections, I would encourage you to do so very soon. Please see 'Deadlines & Events' for more information.

On Friday, we will be holding our Administrative portion of the conference which will provide time for our Initiative Teams to meet in the morning. This will provide a very good time for our teams to get together to focus on planning, strategizing and developing implementation strategies.

Following these team meeting, we are looking forward to an engaging and inspiring talk by John Spence. John is from Gainesville and he works with companies and Universities on leadership, coaching and management. He has been learning much about UF/IFAS Extension over the past few months regarding who we are, what we do and the impact of our programs in the state. His talk will be a great Segway for our organization as we get poised to focus on our upcoming Smith-Lever Centennial celebration.

Here is further information about John:

"John graduated from UF as the top Public Relations Student in the Southeast and number three in the United States. He has personally

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delivered speeches, training or consulting to more than 280 organizations worldwide in the past 9 years. John is known for taking massive amounts of research combined with his personal hands-on experience to deliver timely, focused, results-driven programs.”

We are very excited to have him with us for EPAF. John is giving us a taste of what is to come and has prepared a video especially for UF/IFAS Extension.

[Click HERE to watch the video](#)

More information about John: <http://johnspence.com/johns-bio/>

Finally, I am looking forward to our Administrative section of the EPAF meeting. Here we will be presenting awards and scholarships to numerous faculty in recognition of outstanding work and accomplishments. Also, I am excited about sharing with you a number of challenges, opportunities, goals that we will be addressing as an organization over the upcoming months and years.

EPAF 2013 will be a great opportunity to learn, engage and network on multiple fronts. I will see you there!

Quote

“Life is far too short to spend a majority of it at a job you don’t love, or at least like very, very much.” –John Spence

Best Regards,
Dr. Nick Place

Deadlines & Events

August 26-30, 2013 - Extension Professional Associates of Florida (EPAF) Conference at the Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort & Spa in Ponte Vedra Beach, FL (<http://epaf.ifas.ufl.edu/future-meeting-dates.shtml>)

Registration due 8/22/13
(<http://epaf.ifas.ufl.edu/reg/>)

IST selection due 8/22/13
(https://ufl.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_5oQR91y0owabzOl)

Meet Your Specialist



Amanda Hodges

Entomology and Nematology

Ph.D., Entomology, Univ. of Florida

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I came to the University of Florida from the University of Georgia where I completed my Ph.D. research. My specialties are plant medicine, invasive species and biosecurity. I also take special interest in food security, graduate student training, and international agriculture.

In 2002, I received my degree in Entomology from the University of Georgia. I am interested in multi-disciplinary extension and applied research collaborations that provide clientele with improved pest management and plant production systems. As an extension specialist and also the Director of the Doctor of Plant Medicine (DPM) Program, I integrally include graduate student training in my extension programs. On a personal note, I enjoy improving my understanding of people, history, and culture through international travel.

A Mission to Care, HCE In-Action

Since 2003, our Duval County Home and Community Educators (HCE) have had a heart and mission to help the children receiving care at Nemours Children's Clinic in Jacksonville. Over the past 9 years, they have made 3,336 handmade items for these children! With efforts currently coordinated by Susan Boone of the Arlington HCE Club, they have made items such as an assortment of stuffed animals and hearts; lap quilts, receiving blankets, and large afghans; knitted chemo caps; ouchie dolls; wheelchair caddies; and more! It surely makes these children feel loved and cared for to receive these items that give them a little more comfort as they are treated for incredible conditions.

In the beginning, Sara Sanderson of the Whiteway HCE Club made initial contact with Nemours to work on this project. She was already reading to the children (through Extension's Children and Literacy program) and heard of a need for these comforting items. They contacted the volunteer coordinator, now Mary McCormack. Over time, HCE contributions were starting to dwindle. As a new HCE member, Ms. Boone was looking for a service project that she could give leadership to, get more members active, and have an impact on the community.



Duval HCE member, Margaret Greene, putting the final touches on her ouchie bear.

After a guest speaker from Nemours discussed the impact of the handcrafted items on the children receiving their care, Ms. Boone was inspired to learn more. She talked to Ms. Sanderson, did more research, and sought the support of her club. Ms. Boone decided she could make the service to Nemours on her own. Duval County

HCE is the only organization in a city as large of Jacksonville providing this service.

Fulfilling the mission of the Florida Association of Home and Community Education, this project certainly shows leadership and action!

Stephanie Toelle, FCS EA IV, Duval Cty

Six Broward Parks to Offer Free Gardening Help

"What mysterious insect is chomping through your Bougainvilleas? Why did the leaves fall off your grapefruit tree?"

You can get free answers to your toughest horticultural questions at six Master Gardener Public Service Centers that opened this week at Broward County parks..."

Read more at <http://www.sun-sentinel.com/news/broward/fl-gardening-centers-20130617,0,87472.story>

Farm Tour Encore

Farm tours have been used by many county extension offices to showcase local agricultural industries to politicians and curious citizens to encourage support and understanding for agriculture and the role extension plays. This is especially important in urbanizing areas disconnected from agriculture. The third annual Lake County Extension Farm Tour utilized buses in 2012 thanks to assistance from Farm Bureau and Farm Credit. The annual farm tour had become so popular that self-guided tours caused too much traffic. One hundred eighteen tour participants gathered at the Extension Office and boarded the bus for stops including a hydroponics greenhouse, a tissue culture nursery, a beef cattle farm, a strawberry farm and a winery. A majority of participants were retired and curious about what local farms are doing. Extension agents and farm owners provided on-site learning with participants, teaching about their operation and explaining production, marketing, business and other as-

pects of a successful agricultural enterprise. Between stops, agents on the buses explained “extension” to the group. At the final stop, participants were asked to hand in a completed survey to receive lunch.

Results of the exit survey indicated 52% had never used or were unaware of extension before the tour, 61% planned to use extension in the future, 56% intended to take classes and 4% intended to volunteer with Lake County Extension. The participants of the farm tours came away with a better understanding of agriculture and increased support for the mission of the Extension Service.

Juanita Popenoe, Com Hort EA III, Lake Cty

Cabbage Patch Classroom

Martin County’s FYN team of multi-county agent Fred Burkey and Program Assistant Pat Bonis taught students and teachers about gardening at Felix Williams Elementary School in Jensen Beach. This Extension team worked with 36 teachers and 380 youth in grades K-5 to plant 36 earthboxes and 36 grow bags of cabbage. The day of the harvest yielded approximately 450 pounds of cabbage, and the children had the choice to either donate it or take it home. Our cabbage patch kids chose to donate half to the Salvation Army for their soup kitchen.



Cabbage Patch Kitchen

Chris Kilbride, FCS EA CED IV, Martin Cty

Small Acreage Can Have a Big Impact in Lake County

Lake County is home to a variety of agricultural operations that vary in size from very large commercial properties to 5-50 acre “backyard” farms. While smaller acreage may not have the economic impact that their larger counterparts do, many of these small properties are located at the front line of the rural/urban boundary and/or alongside ecologically sensitive areas such as waterfronts. One goal of the UF/IFAS Lake County Livestock and Natural Resource Extension Program is to provide research-based information to help small farmers be better ambassadors for agriculture in their communities and better stewards of the land. In the Spring of 2013 a total of 33 small-scale farm owners/operators received extension information through one-on-one on-farm teaching. As a result of these encounters, approximately 900 acres of farm land located near major population centers and/or adjacent to ecologically sensitive areas were soil tested for the first time. Of participating farm owners, 85% reported that they previously had routinely applied fertilizer without a soil test, a practice that can lead to pollution of both surface and ground water. Additionally, 70% of the properties visited had significant forage production problems including weed infestation, poor grazing management, and overstocking of livestock. These issues can lead to barren fields that are both an eyesore to the community and do little in the way of filtering ground water or offering protection from erosion. As a result of information disseminated during farm visits, improvements to forage quality and quantity are already being seen and are expected to increase through the growing season.

Megan Brew, 4-H EA II, Lake Cty

Easy as PIE

Save the Date! Easy as PIE Webinar Series

Date: August 21st

Time: 2-3 pm

Topic: Thinking inside the box: Creating a brand that is consistent, engaging and effective



Speaker: Kevin Kent is the Assistant Director of the Florida FFA Association, where he oversees the branding and communication efforts of several agricultural education organizations.

Summary:

Let's make one thing clear before we get started – branding is NOT putting your logo on everything. This presentation will challenge you to think inside and outside the box when it comes to your company or organization's brand. How do you want your customers, clients, or stakeholders to feel, see, smell, think, hear about your brand? Learn about ways to create a multimedia brand that is consistent, engaging and effective. At the end of this session, you will be able to: identify your company or organization's "zag," evaluate the effectiveness of a brand, research your competition's brand, develop a brand strategy, and identify your organization's "big idea."

Registration is required, visit our website to register and to learn more about the Easy as PIE Webinar Series: <http://www.centerpie.com/easy-as-pie/>.

Contact Nicole Dodds for more information: ndodds@ufl.edu or 352-273-3139.

Jefferson Extension Open House was a Success

On Tuesday, June 8, the Jefferson County Extension faculty and staff and the Overall Extension Advisory Committee hosted an Open House at their new location at 2729 West Washington Street, Monticello FL. Overall Extension Advisory Committee Member Chairman Willard Barnhart gave a hardy welcome to all visitors as they signed-in. Over 300 spectators were intrigued and entertained; all ages participated in educational demonstrations, tours of agricultural 4-H, and Family and Consumer Sciences.

Seasoned Agriculture Agent Jed Dillard demonstrated how to obtain a soil analysis through the extension office. Some of the extension partners that presented were the Jefferson County Soil and Water District, Golden of Golden Acers Farms, 4-H member Allison Cone and Allison's three Angus cows, Apalachee Beekeepers Association, Department of Agriculture/Plant Industry, Farm Credit of Northwest Florida, and FAMU Entomology Department.



Jed Dillard, Jefferson County Extension Agriculture Agent conversing with a visitor.

The multi-talented Family and Consumer Science Agent Kristin Jackson provided helpful information on financial management, raised bed gardening, canning and salsa tasting. 4-H volunteers enrolled youth into 4-H and gave parents valuable camp information. The 4-Hers

spoke with spectators about their sewing projects, and teens demonstrated their junk drawer robotic projects. Also 4-H volunteers provided a lot of fun activities for the youth, such as face painting/ balloon art, back yard bass casting, and clover toss. The volunteers also gave away free snow-cones.



Kristin Jackson, FCS Agent allowing participants to taste her renowned salsa.

Extension volunteers gave visitors guided office tours. The perfect tour of the 80-acre site was provided by a good ole' fashion hay ride. Guenter Maresch, North Florida Community College Physics Instructor, provided observatory tours. Spectators enjoyed delicious food and beverages plus fellowship with one another. Bobbie Golden, overall advisory committee member stated, "What a great job we all did", "It is always a pleasure to work with everyone at the Jefferson County Extension Office." It is my opinion that the event was a great success. Several community members have remarked about what an asset our office and all the programs are to their community. Jefferson County is very proud. Visit <http://jefferson.ifas.ufl.edu> for more information.

John Lilly, 4-H CED EA IV, Jefferson Cty

War on Weeds

Situation: A purple nutsedge infestation in a new 20 acre blueberry farm resulted in an expenditure of approximately \$750/acre (\$15,000 total) for

hand weeding to manage this difficult to control weed.

Partners: Lakeshore Growers

Program: Upon recommendation of the Multi-county Extension Agent – Fruit Crops, Lakeshore Growers owners employed a program utilizing multiple applications of a glyphosate herbicide (8) followed by light disking to exhaust purple nutsedge carbohydrate reserves at the site of their planned 20 acre Phase II blueberry planting where there was also a heavy infestation of nutsedge.

People: Lakeshore Growers owners and equipment operators

Outcomes and Impact: The pre-plant weed management program was completed at an approximate cost of \$320/acre (\$6,400 total) in their 20 acre Phase II blueberry planting site, which resulted in a more than an 80% reduction in purple nutsedge population in the newly planted field and a very low probability of needing to utilize hand weeding to manage this pest; an approximate savings of \$430/acre or \$8,600 total.

Gary England, Fruit Crops EA III, Lake Cty

Extension Helps Homeowners Keep Storm Water Ponds Healthy & Save Money

Home Owners Association members (HOAs) are concerned about improving the functionality and life expectancy of their storm water retention ponds. Many think they live on lakes that should never have algae or water quality problems. Once peaceful and clean ponds are now failing and filling with bad algae and have lost their aesthetic appeal.

On March 25th, Collier County Commercial Horticulture Extension partnered with the Naples Botanical Garden. Using the garden as a venue, four wetland and limnology experts gave presentations followed by a lively question and answer period. Workshop topics included Managing Storm Water and Expectations to Enhance Pond Function and

Aesthetics; Addressing Nutrient Sources not just Symptoms: More Sustainable Approach to Storm Water Pond Management; Littoral Plantings for Southwest Florida; and Experiences with Aerators and Floating Islands. (See these at: <http://collier.ifas.ufl.edu> under “pond management.”) Participants were surveyed 10 weeks after the workshop with a 25% response rate. Of the 94 total participants, 65 surveys were sent and 16 replied. Of those responses, 93% shared what they learned with their HOA. This is a more impressive number since HOA managers can share this information to hundreds of other homeowners.



Storm Water Pond

IMPACTS:

- 30% installed aeration devices in the pond.
- 40% left a mowing buffer zone around ponds.
- 40% implemented a no fertilizer zone around their ponds.
- 60% added more littoral plants.
- 30% initiated water quality testing.

Homeowners will save money by prolonging pond longevity before dredging is needed. They will understand that their ponds are part of the storm water management system and not pristine lakes and that all algae are not bad.

Dr. Doug Caldwell, Comm Hort EA IV, Collier Cty

Lions and Tigers and Bears, Oh My!

Actually, it's Gators and Seminoles and Families in this case! UF/IFAS Collier County Extension Family Nutrition Program is partnering with the FSU College of Medicine, Immokalee Arts in Health and Healthcare Network of Southwest Florida at the Isabel Collier Read Medical Campus in Immokalee to provide education and support to local families. Childhood obesity has increased substantially among Latino children. This puts them at greater risk of the related health consequences such as diabetes and heart disease. Salud Immokalee is a program designed for pediatric patients whose body mass index is above the 95th percentile. The children attend eight classes in 16 weeks along with their siblings and parents. A parents group meets concurrently with two children's groups (divided by age), followed by physical activity options such as Zumba and soccer.

FPN parent lessons focus on topics such as making good food choices, increasing physical activity, choosing beverages wisely, buying and preparing family meals and portion sizes. After their corre-



Price per pound, not price per package, doubles the price of these green beans.

sponding lesson, youth practiced making good choices at the school cafeteria by using the actual school menus, food models and MyPlate. After 16 weeks, the program participants will be followed up and supported for 8 months to continue their successes. The medical staff document participant's weight, cholesterol/insulin levels and

monitor the family log of activity and screen time. "What we want to do is change behavior," said Dr. Javier Rosado, staff psychologist at Healthcare Network and developer of the program. "Research shows us that it takes at least 12 months of constant contact to really make an impact. Once these kids know how to take control of their health and weight, with the support of their parents, they'll be empowered to lead healthier lives."

Suzanne Fundingsland, Program EA II, Collier Cty

Lee County 4-H is Building Leaders

"If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader" stated John Quincy Adams. This is the mission of the Lee County 4-H Teen Leadership Program.

Our society is in need of strong leaders who make a positive difference in our local communities, our country, and the world. The Lee County 4-H teens have embraced learning about leadership so that they can become today's leaders.



To illustrate how they are learning leadership, since 2008 eight Lee 4-H youth have been selected to attend National 4-H Congress and twenty youth have served on state Executive Board. Lee County 4-H youth have served on this board planning state level events such as 4-H Day at the Capitol, Legislature, Congress, and Leadership Awareness Weekend. The passion and enthusiasm

about the events they are planning has resulted in recruitment during the past five years of 34 Lee youth to attend Legislature and eighty eight youth to attend Congress.

In closing you know the program is a success when you receive the following note;

"I want to thank you for being a truly inspiring person and a great role model. You've changed so many people's lives including my own. Thank you for always believing in me and giving me wonderful opportunities." The Lee County 4-H teen leadership program is about exposing youth to leadership opportunities so they will dream big, do more, and lead.

Cathy Suggs, 4-H EA II, Lee Cty

Annemarie Post

Sarasota's Extension's esteemed Environmental Horticulture Agent Annemarie Post passed away on Friday, May 31..



Annemarie was well known in Sarasota for her expertise in Florida Friendly Landscaping, community association horticulture education, work with Master Gardeners and the Florida Yards and Neighborhood program, and service in protection of Florida's coastal ecosystems. Annemarie's leadership in the UF/IFAS Extension system was manifest through numerous professional association awards, a long-standing partnership with the Southwest Florida Water Management District, her service as Interim County Extension Director of UF/IFAS Sarasota County, and her popular teaching on snakes, mangroves, and medicinal plants. Annemarie was very active in Sarasota's horticulture community, and worked extensively with groups including Selby Gardens, the Sarasota Garden Club, and the Native Plant Society. Most recently, her work with the Florida Friendly Landscaping program was recognized as contributing

to the removal of Roberts Bay from the Clean Water Act list of impaired waters. Annemarie was a devoted educator, horticulturalist, and friend. Her contributions to the community and her extraordinary spirit will be dearly missed.

In recognition of Annemarie's commitment to horticulture and education, the UF/IFAS Extension Sarasota County team will dedicate the planned demonstration garden at the Sarasota Extension office to her. The working title for the garden is the Annemarie's Garden: A Florida Friendly Landscape.

Dr. Evangeline Linkous, CED II, Sarasota Cty

New Positions

We would like to Congratulate the following faculty members on their new position:

L.Scott Jackson, from SG/Marine Science EA III in Bay Cty to Sust Ag RSA III in Leon Cty

New Hires

We would like to welcome the following new faculty:

Lauren Hrnecirik, 4-H EA I, Highlands Cty
Laurie Hurner, Fruit Crops EA III, Highlands Cty
Taryn Sudol, FFL Prog EA I, Seminole Cty
Mark Maulding, Ag/Nat Res EA I, Washington Cty
Whitney Fung, FCS EA I, Polk Cty

Resignation

We would like to wish the following faculty the best of luck in their future endeavors:

Fred Vose, Wildlife/Nat Res RSA II, Levy Cty

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 Valkyrie Shah.

Please feel free to also forward any questions or comments about this periodical to Valkyrie Shah at valkyrieshah@ufl.edu.
